SF WEEKLY
FREE | MAY 7, 2015

BEST OF SAN FRANCISCO WORLD'S FAIR 2015

CITIZENS & PRECINCTS

MIRTH & MERRIMENT

SUNDRIES & NOTIONS

ATHLETICS & DIVERSIONS

REPASTS & LIBATIONS

SALOONS & DANCE HALLS

NATURAL
AMERICAN
SPIRIT
100% ADDITIVE-FREE
NATURAL TOBACCO
100% ADDITIVE-FREE
NATURAL TOBACCO
INGREDIENTS
ORGANIC TOBACCO & ORGANIC MENTHOL
No additives in our tobacco does NOT mean a safer cigarette.
For information visit NASCIGS.com
or call 1-800-435-5515
PROMO CODE 96063
Website restricted to U.S. smokers age 21 and older.
SURGEON GENERAL'S WARNING: Smoking By Pregnant Women May Result in Fetal Injury, Premature Birth, And Low Birth Weight.
Organic tobacco does NOT mean a safer cigarette.
CIGARETTES
©2015 SFNTC (2)

Mancini's SLEEPWORLD
Simply the Best Place to Buy a Mattress
Twin Size Starting at $79 Each Piece See store
800-64-SLEEP
www.sleepworld.com
LOWEST Prices of the Season
0% APR for 48 Months until paid in full
On purchases of $4800 or more with your Mancini's Sleepworld credit card. 48 Equal Monthly Payments Required.
Mancini's SLEEPWORLD will beat anyone's price by 10% or it's FREE! GUARANTEED see store for complete details
FREE delivery† plus FREE set-up† plus FREE recycling†
Mancini's Sleepworld says Thank You! for voting us as the BEST MATTRESS STORE in San Francisco in SF WEEKLY
Mancini's SleepWorld Designs new Bronze - Firm $299 List $489 Queen Set
Mancini's SleepWorld Designs new Silver - Plush $399 List $579 Queen Set
Mancini's SleepWorld Designs new Gold -Pillow Top $499 List $789 Queen Set
Serta sertapedic Choice of Comfort $699 List $1039 Queen Set
Twin Set List $896 SALE PRICE NOW $599
Full Set List $948 NOW $649
King Set List $1468 NOW $979
Sealy Posturepedic Choice of Comfort List $1117 $749 Queen Set
Twin Set List $922 SALE PRICE NOW $649
Full Set List $1078 NOW $699
King Set List $1741 NOW $1199
Beautyrest RECHARGE ULTRA Choice of Comfort $1099 List $1689 Queen Set
Twin Set List $1507 SALE PRICE NOW $949
Full Set List $1663 NOW $1059
King Set List $2287 NOW $1499
Beautyrest RECHARGE WORLD CLASS Choice of Comfort $1399 List $2339 Queen Set
Twin Set List $2040 SALE PRICE NOW $1199
Full Set List $2196 NOW $1299
King Set List $3067 NOW $1899
icomfort Featuring Cool Action™ Dual Effects™ Gel Memory Foam Starting at $1299 Queen Flat Set
IN-HOME 120 DAY TRIAL! 10 year warranty
TEMPUR-Flex COLLECTION TEMPUR-PEDIC
All of the famous adaptive benefits of TEMPUR® in an new dynamically responsive feel NEW
sale List $489 $349 solid wood bunkbed MADE IN USA
sale List $389 $299 fabric convertable Black Java
sale List $219 $149 wood headboard WOOD HEADBOARDS
sale List $779 $499 queen bed Tufted Linen
NEW $699 queen bed MATCHING PIECES ON SALE
Mancini's SLEEPWORLD www.sleepworld.com • 866-776-3237 • Mon - Fri 10am - 9pm • Sat - Sun 10am - 7pm
SAN FRANCISCO 2950 Geary Blvd. 415-750-0500
SAN FRANCISCO 1450 Van Ness 415-447-1841
SAN RAFAEL 28 Bellam Blvd. 415-256-9800
COLMA 5075 Junipero Serra Blvd. 650-755-9100
PETALUMA 201 S. McDowell Blvd. #A 707-762-6400
REDWOOD CITY 2700 El Camino Real 650-367-1770
NOVATO 65 Rowland Way 415-892-5600
BERKELEY 1099 Ashby Ave. 510-540-8000
Photos for illustration only, product may differ from illustration. Pillows, sheets, furniture and accessories shown in photo not included unless specified. 1Show us any local (Northern California) competitor's advertisement on the same mattress set within 30 days of purchase and Mancini's will beat that price by 10%, applies to mattress sets of $299 or greater only, does not apply to iComfort products. †Free delivery, set-up and recycling available for mattress purchases of $299 or greater, does not apply to furniture sales. *[Offer applies only to single-receipt qualifying purchases.] Minimum purchase required see website, or store for details. No interest will be charged on promo purchase and equal monthly payments are required equal to initial promo purchase amount divided equally by the number of months in promo period until promo is paid in full. The equal monthly payment will be rounded to the next highest whole dollar and may be higher than the minimum payment that would be required if the purchase was a non-promotional purchase. Regular account terms apply to non-promotional purchases. For new accounts: Purchase APR is 29.99%; Minimum Interest Charge is $2. Existing cardholders should see their credit card agreement for their applicable terms. Subject to credit approval.

PARTY LIKE IT'S 2015

BY MARK SEGAL KEMP

A century ago this year, San Francisco showed the world how to bounce back from disaster and party like it was 1915. Nine years earlier, the city had been devastated. In about a minute, the 8.3 magnitude earthquake that hit Northern California on the morning of April 18, 1906, had toppled more than 28,000 apartment buildings, houses, hotels, factories, schools, churches, theaters, nightclubs — even San Francisco's majestic "earthquake-proof" City Hall. Dust engulfed the Bay Area like post-nuclear fallout.

The 1906 Big One was the ultimate test of San Francisco's spirit, and the city came through it with flying colors — literally. After digging out of the rubble, the city hosted the 1915 Panama-Pacific International Exposition, a world's fair to end all world's fairs. At its center was the magnificent Tower of Jewels, ascending 435 feet, with 50 searchlights trained on its 100,000 sparkling emerald green, topaz yellow, ruby red, and aquamarine blue cut-glass gems. The tower was a pre-Disney wonderful world of color — in a city that only a few years earlier had turned a dull and depressing gray.

San Francisco's world's fair was not just a visual treat — it also was a feat of technology. At noon Pacific time on opening day, Feb. 20, President Woodrow Wilson, in Washington, D.C., pressed a gold nugget-covered button that sent electricity shooting across the continent wirelessly to a pair of antennae atop the Tower of Jewels, relaying it to mechanisms that threw open exhibit doors, sent water flowing from fountains, and triggered explosions across the 635 acres of fairground, which included the Palace of Fine Arts, the only remaining structure.

"Today is the triumph of a San Francisco that nine years ago lay in ruins," Gov. Hiram Johnson marveled.

It was a triumph of intelligence, creativity, technology, and over-the-top sparkle and pop — things that have not changed about San Francisco in the 100 years since the Panama-Pacific Expo. For this year's Best of San Francisco, we celebrate the city's ongoing quest for intelligent creativity by looking back at the spirit-lifting importance of the 1915 world's fair and forward to the next big gala. We may have our problems today — new tech and its workers at odds with longtime businesses and residents, a worsening drought, cultural and ethnic misunderstanding, and a police department mired in corruption — but none of it will stop San Francisco from bouncing back and partying … this time like it's 2015.

EDITORIAL

EDITOR Mark Segal Kemp
ART DIRECTOR Audrey Fukuman
STAFF WRITERS Chris Roberts, Joe Fitzgerald Rodriguez, Julia Carrie Wong
CALENDAR EDITOR John Graham
ARTS & CULTURE EDITOR Peter Lawrence Kane
ASSOCIATE CULTURE EDITOR Giselle Velazquez
MUSIC EDITOR Matt Saincome
PROOFREADER Stewart Applin
CONTRIBUTORS Rae Alexandra, Juan de Anda, Michael Barba, Casey Burchby, Alexis Coe, Sherilyn Connelly, Jonathan Curiel, Heidi De Vries, Michael Fox, Leif Haven, Devin Holt, Irene Hsiao, Eddie Jorgensen, Alee Karim, Mark Keresman, Jonathan Kiefer, Omar Mamoon, Gary Moskowitz, Tamara Palmer, Sam Prestianni, Ferron Salniker, Dan Savage, Katy St. Clair, Nick Schager, Katie Tandy, Benjamin Wachs

ART

CONTRIBUTING ARTIST AND PHOTOGRAPHER Mike Koozmin, Fred Noland

PRODUCTION

DIRECTOR OF MARKETING AND CREATIVE SERVICES Cheryl Fletcher
SENIOR DESIGNERS Bill Evans, Doran Shelley
GRAPHIC DESIGNERS Kenneth Macaraig, Eric Pratt

ADVERTISING

CHIEF REVENUE OFFICER Jay Curran
VICE PRESIDENT OF ADVERTISING Cliff Chandler
ADVERTISING DIRECTOR Ari Spanier

BUSINESS

VICE PRESIDENT OF OPERATIONS Aaron Barbero

PEOPLE & PLACES

Readers Poll 8
Best Youth Advocate 8
Best Transgender Advocate 8
Best Disability Advocate 9
Best Housing Rights People 9
Best Theater 9
Best Small Neighborhood Theater .. 10
Best Museum 10
Best In-House Museum 10
Best Museum to Party in 10
Best MIA Park 12
Best Park to Make You Smile When Running 12
Best Staycations 14
Best Bus Stop to Sneak on Late-Night Muni When You Don't Have Change 14
Best Tour of the City's Extremes via Bus 14
Best Muni Train to Ride For Kicks ... 14
Best Artwork to Get Lost In 14
Best Street-Art Garden 14
Best Stairs in the City 14
Best Historic Street-Art Stroll 14
Best "Hands On" Nonprofit 16
Best Underground Genius 16
Best Bar to Get Trashed on a Budget 16
Best Collection of Offbeat Footage . 16
Best Ungentrified Housing 17
Best Smoking Patio 17
Best Way to Maintain Punk Rock Roots While Adapting to New Surroundings 17
Best Lower Haight Time Capsule 17
Best Bartender in S.F. 17
Best Celebrities Who Passed Away Too Soon 18
Best Celeb Busker 18
Best Place to Feel Completely And Utterly Isolated Around Tourists 18
Best Dentist 18
Best Hidden Architectural Gem 19
Best View of a Nontraditional S.F. Skyline 19
Best Romantic Novel Author to Let her Bush Get Wild 19

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Readers Poll 24
Best Way to Feel Young Again 24
Best Weeknight Drag Show 24
Best Place to Test Your Pipes 24
Best Musical Experience Involving 176 Speakers 24
Best Way to Get Riled Up 24
Best Local Up-and-Coming Art Collective 26
Best Place to Jam for Cheap with No Commitment 28
Best Television Show Filmed in SF .. 28
Best Local Film Trailer 28
Best Immersive Street Theater Experience 28
Friendliest Record Store to Sell CDs to 28
Best New Record Store 29
Best Emoji App Made By a Local Rapper 29
Best Beverage Made by a Yay Area Rapper 29
Best Female-Fronted Experimental Band 29
Best Hardcore Band 29
Best Excuse to Start Your Weekend Early 30
Most Expensive Venue to Stand Outside Of 30
Best Free Nightly Light and Musical Show 30
Best Acoustic Sculpture 30
Best Place to Work Off Tour 30
Best All-Ages Venue to Visit Before It's Gone 30
Best Permanent Free Art Exhibit 32
Best Effort to Beautify a Neighborhood 32

Best Local Author....32
Best Literary Mag....32
Best Cure For Musical Myopia....32
Best Excavated Sounds of Underground Dance....33
Best Internationally Renowned Traveling Queer Party and DJ Collective....34
Best Art At a Laundromat....34
Best Artistic Effort to Recycle and Repurpose....34
Best One-Man Effort to Document the SF Jazz Scene....34
Best Contemporary Dance Company....34
Best Local Internet Radio Station....34
Best Artist From a San Francisco Future....34

SHOPPING & SERVICES

Readers Poll....38
Best Bookstore We're Rooting for to Survives....40
Best Place For Antiques....40
Best Used Bookstore....40
Best Bookstore to Get Local Flavor Alongside the Classics....40
Best Literally Underground Comedy 40
Best Birthplace of Your Next Wild Costume....40
Best Absolutely Bonkers Housewares....42
Best Sex Shop....42
Best Response to Rising Minimum Wage....42
Best Underrated Comic Book Shop....42
Best Strange Gifts....42
Best Neighborhood Boutique....42
Best Only-In-S.F. Hashtag....46
Best Place to Build Your Own Vape Pen....46
Best Farm-To-Table Weed....46
Best Marijuana Edible (For People Who Don't Like Edibles)....46
Best Marijuana Speakeasy....46
Best Way to Get Legal Marijuana Without Leaving Your House....48
Best Place to Design and Purchase Your Own Backpack....48
Best Local Jewelry Shop....48
Best Place to Get Your (Board) Game On....48
Best Regalos y Decoraciones....48
Great Bottle Shops For Rare Booze....50
Best Locally Made SF-themed T-shirts and Tanks....50
Best Magical Mystery Store....50

SPORTS & RECREATION

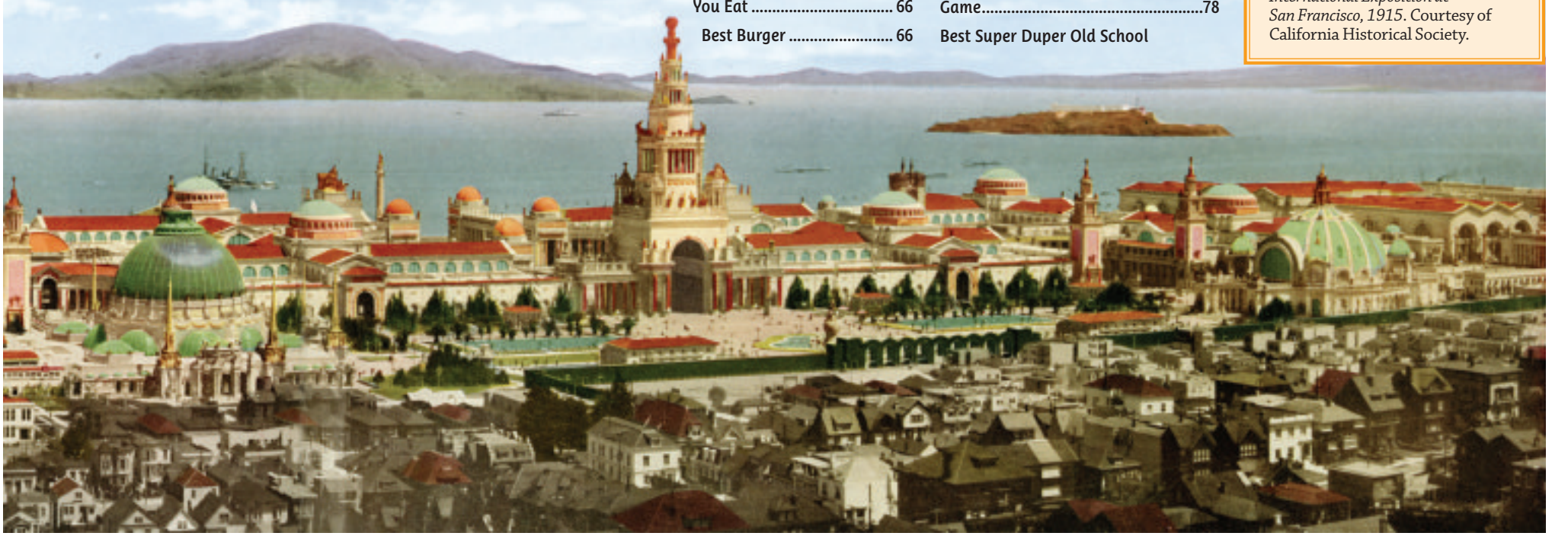
Readers Poll....54
Best Bike Kickstarter/Invention....54
Best Bike Ride....54
Best New Bike Legislation....54
Best New Bike Lane....54
Best Worst Bike Project....54
Best Giant....55
Best Giants Mural....55
Best 49er....55
Best Place to Fly Off a Cliff....55
Best Warrior....56
Best Place to Skateboard, Still....56
Best Place to Re-enact Scenes From *Furious 7* Indoors....56
Best Place to Play Frisbee (Because Frisbee is Still Cool, Right?)....56
Best Place To Get Scared Out Of Your Pants....56
Best Camp to Send Your Little Monsters....56
Best Indoor Miniature Golf Course....56
Best Place To Make Out In Your Car or on The Grass....56
Best Sacred Rollerblading Rink....56
Best Place to Get Your Ya Ya's Out....56
Best Place to Shoot an Arrow....57
Best Place to Learn Muay Thai From a Living Legend....57
Best Place To Take Aim and Dart....57
Best Place to Swim like a Fish but Feel Like an Ironman....57

FOOD & DINING

Readers Poll....60
Best New Coffee Roasters....60
Best Edible Import From Oakland....60
Best Place to Eat a Head....62
Smartest New Restaurant Concept....62
Coolest New Pastry Mash-Up....62
Best New Vegan Spot....62
Best Pop-Up to Permanent Restaurants....64
Best Boba Drink (Non-Alcoholic)....64
Best New Food Court....64
Best New Sushi....65
Best New Cafe (Especially if You're Expecting)....65
Best New Restaurant for Feeling at Home....65
Best Place to Brunch....65
Best Iteration of Pre-1915 California Cuisine....65
Best Thai....65
Best Place to Share Everything You Eat....66
Best Burger....66
Best New Food Truck....66
Best New Dim Sum....66
Best Place to Drink Like It's 1915....66
Best Boba Drink (Alcoholic)....66
Best Places for Artichokes....68
Best Southern Nachos....69
Best New Pizza....69
Best New Sandwich....69
Best Place to Eat Brunch When the Weather is Warm....69
Best Homegrown Chain....69
Best Ice Cream....69
Best Places to Dine Al Fresco....70
Best Pop-Up (Dinner)....70
Best New Place in an Old Building....70
Best Tapas....70
Best New Old-School Place That Bucks 2015's Trends....71
Best Ramen....71
Best Use of Coffee in Food....71
Best Bone Broth....71
Best Pop-Up (Breakfast)....71
Best New French Restaurants That Aren't Totally French....73
Best Meaty Lunch....73
Best Successor to a Neighborhood Institution That Closed....73
Best Follow-Up to a Beloved Classic....74
Best Game Burger....74
Best Café to Get Hyped on Coffee....74
Best Non-Taqueria-Based Breakfast Burrito....74
Best Quick Grub Before A Show....74

BARS & CLUBS

Readers Poll....78
Best New Bar With an Old-School Game....78
Best Super Duper Old School Neighborhood Bar....78
Best Trip to the Retro-Future....78
Best New Cocktail Bar....78
Best Bar That's Been a Bar Since Before 1915....78
Best Gay Bar/Club....80
Best New Distillery....80
Best Bar Trend....80
Best New Brewpub....82
Best New Brewery....82
Most Knowledgeable Beer-tenders....82
Best Club For Those Who Love Costumes....84
Best Fresh Hoppy Beer....84
Best Spot For Rare, Weird, and Interesting Beer....84
Best Bar Featuring Only Local Beer....84
Best Arcade for Grownups....84
Best Underrated SF Brewery....84
Best Local Drink Publication....84
Best Local Irish Bar....84
Best Wine Bar....84
Best Bar Dog....86
Best Lounge....86
Best Local Dive Bar....86
Best Margarita....86
Best Bar With Eccentric Entertainment....86
Best Bloody Mary....86
Best Fully Legal Pick-Me-Up For All-Night Club Marathons....86
Best Post-Show Bar to Watch Straight Dudes Being Awkward....86



Panoramic view of the Panama-Pacific International Exposition from the *Panama-Pacific International Exposition at San Francisco, 1915*. Courtesy of California Historical Society.

Courtesy of San Francisco History Center, San Francisco Public Library

PEOPLE & PLACES

VALENCIA CYCLERY

We've won more Reader's Choice Awards than any shop in Town!

Bay Area Reporter: 2012, 13, 14 & 15!
Bay Guardian: 2009, 10, 11, 13 & 14 (Final Issue)
SF Weekly: 2010, 11, 13, 14 & 15!

Fitness Bikes

Kids Bikes

SF WEEKLY
BEST OF SAN FRANCISCO
WINNER
2015

Road Bikes

Mountain Bikes

Thank You Readers and Riders!

SPECIALIZED DAHON Raleigh TREK SE RACING SURLY

VALENCIA CYCLERY

1065 & 1077 Valencia (Btwn 21st & 22nd St.) • SF • SALES 415-550-6600
REPAIRS 415-550-6601 • Mon-Sat 10-6, Thu 10-7, Sun 11-5
valenciacyclery.com

Years before sex, drugs, and murder scandals tanked the careers of silent-movie stars Fatty Arbuckle and Mabel Normand, the comedy duo toured the newly rebuilt San Francisco City Hall with Mayor James Rolph Jr. during the 1915 world's fair. They were hardly the only celebs spotted strolling along Avenue of Nations or hanging out at the Zone, Court of Abundance, or Peace Palace. Henry Ford chilled with Thomas Edison at the Palace of Machinery. Teddy and Franklin Roosevelt made appearances, as did Charlie Chaplin, opera singer Madame Ernestine Schumann-Heink, and plenty of local politicians.

Today, celebs continue making the trek to San Francisco, and some live here. But the most interesting people and places are the unsung heroes and out-of-the-way destinations.

BEST YOUTH ADVOCATE
Angel VanStark

It's hard to believe that Angel VanStark was a homeless teen three years ago. VanStark, who identified as queer, prefers they/their pronouns and is a testament to the strength of the human spirit. When they arrived in San Francisco at age 19, they had no more than small change, a backpack, and a zest for life. With the help of organizations such as Larkin Street Youth Services and the LGBT Community Center, among others, VanStark found employment in the tech field, housing, and a new calling. VanStark now spends their life giving back. A member of the LGBT Center's Board of Directors, they helped the center organize a youth drop-in space. As the city's former youth commissioner, appointed to that post by District 8 Supervisor Scott Wiener, VanStark organized the first District 8 Youth Town Hall. The state director of California for the Campaign for the Presidential Youth Council, VanStark continues to advocate for queer/LGBT youth, for the transgender community, and for people of color.

BEST TRANSGENDER ADVOCATE
Veronika Fimbres

The first thing one notices in Veronika Fimbres' presence is her sense of peace. And of course her

READERS POLL WINNERS

BEST ACCOUNTANT
KEEPING YOUR BALANCE

BEST ADVERTISING AGENCY
SWIRL

BEST APARTMENT BUILDING
PARAMOUNT

BEST BARTENDER
AARON (ALTA)

BEST BROKER
ALAIN PINEL

BEST CHEF
ROBIN SONG (HOG & ROCKS)

BEST CHIROPRACTOR
ANN HOOD

BEST COMMUNAL OFFICE SPACE
NEXT SPACE

BEST COSMETIC SURGEON
DR. COREY MAAS

BEST DENTIST
AARON ROSE

BEST DOCTOR
DR. PEGGY NEWCOMER (ONE MEDICAL)

BEST DRAG QUEEN
COOKIE DOUGH

BEST DUI LAWYER
BEAHM LAW

BEST HOTEL
THE WARWICK HOTEL

BEST INJURY LAWYER
DOLAN LAW

BEST MOVIE THEATER
CASTRO THEATRE

BEST NEIGHBORHOOD
MISSION

BEST NEW HOME BUILDER
KB HOMES

BEST ORTHODONTIST
WASHINGTON SQUARE PARK DENTAL

BEST PEOPLE WATCHING
DOLORES PARK

BEST PERSONAL TRAINER
SEBASTIAN GRUBB

BEST PLACE TO TAKE VISITORS
WILD SF TOURS

BEST REALTOR
CHRISTIE SPRINGER

BEST TAILOR
GREEN STREETS CLEANERS

BEST TECH COMPANY
TWITTER

BEST WEBSITE
FUNCHEAP

BEST WINERY
SCRIBE

genuine love for people. Fimbres no doubt understands the sting of prejudice as an African-American transgender woman, thus she does everything she can to inspire goodwill. Her accomplishments are many, and she has the awards to prove it. In 1996, she won the Testimony of Spirit Award from The Shanti Project for sharing her story to trainees in Shanti's volunteer program — Fimbres is a longterm HIV survivor. A veteran, she's the first transgender officer in San Francisco history: She served as the city's commissioner of Veteran's Affairs for 14 years. Also a registered nurse, she has lectured medical students at UCSF about how to treat transgender patients. She has worked with the AIDS Emergency Fund and was a three-year member of the mayor's HIV Planning Council. Fimbres is beloved by many for her transgender advocacy, and has been an honorary Grand Marshal in the San Francisco Pride Parade. She currently sits on the Pride Board.

BEST DISABILITY ADVOCATE
Belo Miguel Cipriani

belocipriani.com

Belo Cipriani was a fully sighted and successful gay man, working in the corporate world, when he was viciously assaulted in 2007. He was kicked directly in the eyes and left totally blind. Now 34 years old, Cipriani has reinvented himself. *Blind: A Memoir*, an award winning 2011 book, recounts the loss of his sight and his subsequent rehabilitation. The book serves to inspire other disabled people to fight back and to bounce back. The official spokesperson for Guide Dogs For the Blind, Cipriani writes a syndicated column called Seeing in the Dark. He offers weekly career advice on KKSF radio, and has appeared in informational videos produced for Guide Dogs and for The Exploratorium. He has also lectured at universities around the country. Belo Cipriani has not only shared his talents, he has shown untold numbers of people that life with a disability can be full, rich and rewarding.

Belo Miguel Cipriani

BEST HOUSING RIGHTS PEOPLE
Housing Rights Committee

417 South Van Ness Ave., hrcsf.org

The Housing Rights Committee was formed in 1979 and has remained a pillar of protecting people (low-income seniors and disabled) from getting screwed out of their housing. As of late, the committee is at the forefront of the anti-eviction battle that's riled up all of San Francisco. HRC warriors like Executive Director Sara Shortt, Fred Sherburn-Zimmer, and Tommi Avicolli Mecca, among others, don't just show up and scream — they've actually saved thousands of people from losing their homes. Look, the Housing Rights Committee has majoe cojones. Members will show up where needed and rescue people from becoming victims of rich landlords. The HRC knows the law and understands how the system works — as bad as the eviction crisis now is, it might have been so much worse without fearless people over at the Housing Rights Committee. Thanks, guys!

BEST THEATER
The Castro Theatre

429 Castro St., castrotheatre.com

The venerable movie palace remains a single-screen venue more than 80 years after it first opened its doors. And to this day, you can walk into the theater and know this is what going to the movies was like in 1935. The old-fashioned, sparkling marquee, the theater's ornaments, and its fabulous chandelier, remain fully intact and clean — as if it was still 1922. It's the kind of place that wouldn't sur- » p10

The Best Chiropractor in San Francisco!

SF WEEKLY BEST OF SAN FRANCISCO WINNER 2015

DR. ANN HOOD, P.T, D.C.

Practicing Chiropractic in San Francisco for 25 years with 35 years of Physical Therapy experience.

Thank you to the Patients and Readers for their Votes and Support!

HOOD CHIROPRACTIC AND PHYSICAL THERAPY

3892 24TH ST SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94114

415.821.2100

Best Place for FREE Stuff

San Francisco Public Library

27 Neighborhood Branches plus the Main Library

Classes · Events · Maker Spaces · Book Clubs · Exhibits
Historical Photographs · Streaming · WiFi · More

sfpl.org

San Francisco Public Library

prise patrons if Romeo and Juliet stopped by to beckon to each other from one of the elegant indoor balconies. And the theater's flicks are a film lover's delight. The Castro offers a mix of recent Hollywood hits, film festivals (The Frameline LGBT Fest, the Silent Film Fest, Noir City, and the Jewish Film Fest are among the annual staples), and classic films (on the big screen where they were intended to be seen) not to mention sing-alongs! Most every genre of movie dating back to the 1920s will appear at the Castro. And stars of classic films will drop in for a fun Q&A or a meet and greet with moviegoers. Did we mention the popcorn kicks ass?

BEST SMALL NEIGHBORHOOD THEATER

The Balboa

3630 Balboa St., cinemasf.com/balboa

Okay, so it's not the Castro Theatre but the Balboa is still an enjoyable throwback to a nearly forgotten era of moviegoing. A small theater designed to serve its immediate community, the Balboa opened in 1926 and is currently run by movie buffs Adam Bergeron and his wife, Jami Holker. Now a two-screen theater, the Balboa's Art Deco marquee remains fully intact, as does its historic lobby. Though it's primarily a first-run theater, many classic films are screened here as well: Popcorn Palace commences Saturday mornings and $10 gets you in to see a classic film, with freshly made popcorn and a drink to boot. Additional classic films screen Thursday at 7:30 p.m. It's a great movie theater to make out in like you are on your first date.

BEST MUSEUM

Contemporary Jewish Museum

736 Mission St., thecjm.org

Did you know that the Contemporary Jewish Museum makes its home in a historic SOMA building that once served as a PG&E substation? The beautifully spacious museum is chock-full of atmosphere, the perfect setting in which to take in the many history lessons it has to spill. The CJM has no permanent exhibitions, rather, it offers an ever-changing menu of both traveling and in-house exhibits which seeks to "make the diversity of the Jewish experience relevant for a 21st Century audience." You can experience artist talks, film, live performance, workshops, as well as special programs for families and teens. All spectrums of Jewish life: Orthodox, Reform and LGBT, get equal representation in an informal and welcoming environment that celebrates the past, present and future. The CJM often reaches out to other communities, helping to promote peaceful coexistence between different cultures — and that reflects the San Francisco we know and love.

BEST IN-HOUSE MUSEUM

Gregangelo Museum

225 San Leandro Way, 415-664-0095

Local artist Gregangelo is giving Willy Wonka a run for his money. The quixotic painter and art collector spent the past three decades turning his West Portal home into a museum dedicated to the history of man. Each room has a different theme, allowing visitors to travel through time with just a simple walk down the hallway. Some of the spaces are saturated in deep primary colors, like reds and greens. Others are filled with towers made out of candy and Egyptian pyramids. Our personal favorite is the attic, with its spinning wheels, strobe lights, and psychedelic mirrors an homage to the one thing we all take part in, like it or not: the Circle of Life.

BEST MUSEUM TO PARTY IN

Asian Art Museum

asianart.org, 415-581-3500

On a scale of one to 10, how much do you love a night on the town? It's safe to assume that most of us reside somewhere in the meaty part of the curve: more social than your typical Hermit, and more mellow than a Party Animal. Still, going out is an exciting part of living in a major metropolis. San Francisco, as we know, is not just any major metropolis. But, curiously, it offers a surprisingly limited amount of "nightclubs" in the traditional sense. Whether that is due to a lack of demand or something » p12

Jay Jao

CLEAN . STRAIGHTEN . WHITEN . BRIGHTEN

A great smile is for everyone.

SF WEEKLY
BEST OF SAN FRANCISCO
WINNER
2015

AARON E. ROSE, DMD
SAN FRANCISCO COSMETIC DENTAL GROUP
7 Lombard Street
San Francisco, CA 94111
415.398.2582
www.draaronrose.com

else is tough to sort out. But it is safe to say that an impressive amount of San Franciscans tend to lean toward "high culture" events than toward down-and-dirty clubbing. That's why we're especially fond of the Asian Art Museum. This institution is critical in terms of cultural conservation — but it's hardly stuck-up. The Asian Art Museum has bragging rights on an impressive amount of "high art" categories. The roughly 18,000 pieces that make up the AAM's collection come from virtually every Asian nation and culture dating from about 4,000 B.C.E. to present day. It is one of the largest and best-curated Asian museums in the West.

Oh, and the museum also happens to throw killer parties. As if to match the grandeur of the artworks that it highlights, AAM spares no expense on exhibit openings. From an adult-themed opening party for the world-class exhibit, "Seduction: Japan's Floating World," to the traditional Japanese New Year's bell-ringing ceremonies (complete with a working brass temple bell weighing 2,100 pounds), the Asian Art Museum makes patrons rethink the notion that museums are stuffy, old, and boring.

Dolores Park

Mike Koozmin

BEST MIA PARK
Dolores Park

19th & Dolores St., 415-554-9521

When, oh when, will the Dolores Park renovations be complete? This thing has been going on for months, and yet the lower end remains in a state of total disrepair: huge mounds of dirt, bulldozers and no access to those crappy public bathrooms that we love to hate. Mission hipsters are in a quandry, wondering where the hell they're suppose drink all their cheap red wine in the park. The Dolores Park website continues to promise us: "New Restrooms with expanded capacity; Renovated Tennis and Basketball Courts; Improved designated Off-Leash Dog Play Areas; New Bike Racks; New Pathways; New Overlook in the Southwest corner; Improved Irrigation; Improved ADA Access, and Improved 18th Street Entrance." It all sounds great, but we're starting to wonder if it'll ever happen.

BEST PARK TO MAKE YOU SMILE WHEN RUNNING
Sigmund Stern

19th Avenue & Sloat Boulevard
sfrecpark.org/destination/sigmund-stern-recreation-grove/

Running is the worst, especially on a treadmill at a sweaty gym. But doing the deed at Sigmund Stern Recreation Grove is not so bad, if not damn pleasing for many reasons. It's relaxing enough to visit the natural atmosphere and get away from the city (and the gym), but part of the grove is a leash-free dog park where you can watch canines and their humans play and play and play more. The track extends to the western edge of the park where Pine Lake sits, » p14

HEALDSBURG CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
www.healdsburg.com

In the famed Sonoma County wine country.
Local hospitality meets San Francisco chic.

Bakeries, bistros, tasting rooms and 5-star restaurants.
Stylish boutiques, art galleries and antique shops.
Picnic baskets brimming with local farmers' market delicacies.

Taste the wine country the way Northern Californians do.
And like everyone who visits, you'll fall head over Healdsburg.

EASY, JACK.

FAIR TO ASSUME

the easy drinking Easy Jack was easy to brew. Just take our beloved Union Jack, subtract some ABV, and call it a Session IPA, right? Hardly. Brewmaster Matt Brynildson literally trekked three continents to source the hops so Easy Jack could deliver globe-spinning hop aromas, a signature malt balance and an empty glass before you knew what hit you. Drink Easy, Jack.

#BEERBEFOREGLORY

FIRESTONE WALKER®
BREWING COMPANY

© 2015 // Firestone Walker Brewing Co. // Paso Robles, CA

adding a marsh-y view to the contagious joy of freed spirits. So there you have it — exercise while taking in nature and adorable animals. That should get you moving.

BEST BUS STOP TO SNEAK ON LATE-NIGHT MUNI WHEN YOU DON'T HAVE CHANGE

91-Owl

sfmta.com/getting-around/transit/routes-stops/91-owl

When it's time to get home after a night out on the town, specifically a night out on Geary Boulevard where there are $1 shots, yet you're flat out of cash, don't freak out. What's usually the outbound stop at Park Presidio and Geary Boulevard for the routes traveling between 28th and 19th avenues turns into the inbound stop for the 91-Owl, the city's wonderful late-night bus service for the cheap and alcohol-impaired. This isn't just any bus ride — it comes equipped with a huge, marvelous tree to give you cover. Go ahead and hide behind that magic shrubbery and wait; you're perfectly eclipsed from the bus driver's view. When the coach makes its stop, you can pop out from the tree and dart right into the back door — and ride for free.

BEST TOUR OF THE CITY'S EXTREMES VIA BUS

The 44-O'Shaughnessy

sfmta.com/gettingaround/transit/routes-stops/44oshaughnessy

Arguments about housing in this city tend to dip into Milton Friedman territory, and arguments about the existential condition of this city's richer and poorer inhabitants grow downright Dickensian. Dickensian bus tours are not yet a thing but, if you desire to make it one, you could do worse than to catch a ride on the 44-O'Shaugnessy. The line starts in the hard-scrabble Hunters View projects, motors through the city's unpretentious southeast, heads alongside Glen Canyon up the eponymous O'Shaugnessy Boulevard before cutting through leafy green Golden Gate Park and coming to an eventual rest in the chi-chi Presidio Heights. On a recent voyage, a heavily pregnant woman was seen disembarking the bus at Sixth and Clement and heading toward California Pacific Medical Center. "She in labor?" the driver asked the woman's husband. He replied in the negative. "Well," the driver retorted, "maybe she will be after that walk."

BEST STAYCATIONS

BY BRAD JAPHE

Rent notwithstanding, we have it pretty good here in the City by the Bay. We get to regard one of the most romanticized destinations on the planet simply as "home." While it's rewarding to see people from far and wide marvel at the natural beauty right at our doorstep, we could use a little rest and relaxation ourselves from time to time. Luckily, we don't have to travel too far to find it. Retreat from the hustle bustle of urban existence — and, yes, the unending throngs of tourists — with the best weekend "staycations" in and around our own backyard.

If even the *idea* of weekend traffic over the Golden Gate Bridge is far too exhausting, rest assured that you can find tranquil seclusion within our very own 47 square miles. As a prime example, the **Inn at the Presidio** (42 Moraga Ave., 415-800-7356), overlooking redwoods and tranquil Mountain Lake, feels half a world away from the Tenderloin, but it's actually a free shuttle ride away via the nearby PresidiGo. Not that you'll ever want to return to the concrete jungle after a weekend spent sniffing eucalyptus as you hike the trail from its spa to the neighboring golf course. King size rooms start at $330.

A little outside the national park but every bit as laid back is the **Laurel Inn**, (444 Presidio Ave., 415-567-8467) a pet-friendly boutique hotel in the heart of Laurel Heights. Why should you shell out roughly $160 a night for lodging in your own city? This urban oasis provides shelter from the storm in the form of immediate access to an underexplored section of the city, sensational skyline views, and an unpretentious cocktail lounge called Swank, which provides a welcome respite from those obnoxious outposts that dominate the more centralized weekend go-tos. A great way to renew your love affair with San Francisco.

Not far away in Pacific Heights is the **Monte Cristo Inn** (600 Presidio Ave., 415-931-1875), the city's premier bed-and-breakfast. Originally a 19th century bordello, this historic landmark survived the 1906 earthquake, as well as Prohibition — as a neighborhood speakeasy. Quaint rooms evoke the past, with wooden bedposts, Persian rugs, and antique furnishings setting the Victorian mood. The serene setting not only feels like stepping into a bygone era, it feels removed from the surrounding city. And with rooms starting at $199, this criminally underutilized weekend retreat is something of a steal in this neighborhood.

But if these staycations seem steep for your budget, there's always free camping in the Marin Headlands. All you'll need there is a tent and your sense of adventure — and an advance reservation with the Park Service.

BEST MUNI TRAIN TO RIDE FOR KICKS

J-Church

sfmta.com/getting-around/transit/routes-stops/j-church

Touring the non-touristy parts of this fine city takes some real physical energy. Unless of course, you've discovered the J-Church, where you can sit and soak up all the San Franicsco greatness in one ride. As it chugs along Church Street and tempts you with places like Chile Pies and Aardvark Books, you can get a 180-degree bird's-eye view of the city's evolution from the 1920s to the imagined future with the Market Street Railway mural. But the crowning moment of this Muni ride leads to awe-inspiring views of the Mission and downtown when it reaches the top of Dolores Park. Our only coimplaint is the kiddie-rollercoaster feel you get from this ride doesn't last long enough. Oh, don't forget to stop by Mitchell's Ice Cream, another San Francisco gem the average tourist wouldn't think about.

BEST ARTWORK TO GET LOST IN

The Labyrinth at Lands End

Created by Eduardo Aguilera in 2004, The Lands End Labyrinth, originally a locals-only secret, has become a well-known sight to capture an alternative, yet epic, view of the Golden Gate Bridge. The simple stone outline follows the pattern of the seven-circuit Chartres cathedral labyrinth. At first, Aguilera hoped to remain anonymous, but his work was quickly discovered by hikers and explorers adventuring through unkempt roads. To find this mysterious maze, follow the signs toward Mile Rock Beach and walk along the edge of the sea cliffs. Sadly, there's no sign directing you to this local treasure, but it's well worth the search.

BEST STREET-ART GARDEN

Tenderloin National Forest

509 Ellis St.

True to its name, this one-time alley has a dense array of trees and foliage that gives it a "forest feel." But equally important is the great artwork draped over the building's walls on either side — a mix of straight portraits, abstract imagery, and everything in between. The Luggage Store gallery runs this outdoor treasure. The only problem: The forest has fixed hours — 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., Wednesday through Saturday — and even these hours aren't always adhered to, with an artful locked gate keeping out everyone until the forest reopens.

BEST STAIRS IN THE CITY

16th Avenue Tiled Steps Project

Moraga Street between 15th & 16th Avenues
tiledsteps.org

Another hidden gem exists in the community-constructed 16th Avenue Tiled Steps Project. Of all the unintentional exercise to endure in this hilly town, these mosaic stairs reward different designs and vantage points to marvel at with each step. A majestic view of the Pacific Ocean and Golden Gate Bridge greets you just when you reach the top. Whether or not your jelly legs can take another set of stairs, albeit wooden and less shiny stairs, carry yourself up to Grand View Park, the little sister of Twin Peaks free of the tourist crowd, for a nearly 360-view of San Francisco. Try to plan for a dusk visit — watching the sun slowly melt into the ocean and disappear into the San Francisco night from that sublime view makes for a climb of undoubted worth.

BEST HISTORIC STREET-ART STROLL

Clarion Alley

between Mission and Valencia streets near 16th Street

For more than 20 years, Clarion Alley has been its own "Best of San Francisco," displaying work from a collective of artists belonging to every genre imaginable. Among the great older works is *Mojo Man* by Kenneth Huerta, at the alley's Mission Street entrance. But new works » p16

sparc

San Francisco's
Premier Cannabis Dispensary
sparcsf.org

Thanks for Voting SPARC **Best Medical Marijuana Provider!**

GRAB AN *OG KUSH 1/8TH FOR $25

1 coupon per member per visit. Cannot be combined with any other promotion.
*If not available, can be redeemed for comparable strain (manager's choice). Valid through 6/7/15.

SF WEEKLY
BEST OF
SAN FRANCISCO
WINNER
2015

1 Block from Civic Center BART/Muni
1256 Mission Street
San Francisco CA, 94103
415.252.7727
NOW SERVING MEMBERS FROM 8AM - 10PM

Only individuals with legally recognized Medical Cannabis Identification Cards or a verifiable, written recommendation from a physician for medical cannabis may obtain cannabis from medical cannabis dispensaries.

– Best of SF Winner 2015 –

Thank you WSPD patients and SF Weekly readers!

We are in North Beach San Francisco, come check us out!

WASHINGTON SQUARE PARK DENTAL
1719 Powell St. San Francisco, CA 94133
tel 415.891.9773 www.wsparkdental.com

are always being put up, so just when you think you know Clarion Alley (and even take it for granted), another eye-opening painting or mixed-media work enters the fray, like *Persian Dreams*, which Shaghayegh Cyrous and CK1 collaborated on last year. In Clarion Alley, the old and the new mix comfortably side by side.

BEST "HANDS ON" NONPROFIT

Wikiseat

wikiseat.org

Ah these damn kids today with their phones, and their apps, and their music. And their chairs. That's right: chairs. Fearing that too much education has become too digital, Wikiseat was founded by volunteers in San Francisco in 2010 to provide educators with an easy — and free — way to help their students work with their hands. At its heart is a metal "catalyst" that, with the proper instructions, can be used to create nearly any kind of chair. Wikiseat sends catalysts to educators around the world and provides help making lesson plans. It's DIY culture meets classrooms, and it supports lessons in history and American literature, among more obvious choices. Now the organization is expanding into libraries: As of March, you can check "catalysts" out at the Oakland Public Library system, with others soon to follow around the Bay Area. Catalysts have to be returned to the library — the chairs you make with them are yours to keep.

BEST UNDERGROUND GENIUS

Dr. Hal

Like a four-dimensional object, it is difficult to imagine — let alone see — all the sides to Harry Robins (aka "Dr. Hal") at once. Most people would recognize his distinctive sharp voice from the Half-Life computer games, and from Dota 2. Others have heard him on local underground radio stations. He played with the Cacophony Society, was a conspirator with the Jejune Institute, and has even appeared in film ("Kamilliions," which he co-wrote) and television (*The Conspiracy Zone*). But he's also an artist whose work has been anthologized by R. Crumb; an author (*The Meaning of Lost and Mismatched Socks* and *Dinosaur Alphabet*), and the official "Keeper of Secrets" for the Church of the SubGenuis. Oh, and then there's the *Ask Dr. Hal* game show, a decades-old S.F. institution now finishing another run. Perhaps the only person up to the task of explaining the full impact of Dr. Hal on SF counterculture is … Dr. Hal.

BEST BAR TO GET TRASHED ON A BUDGET

Would You Believe?

4652 Geary Boulevard, 415-752-7444

Of all the deals Would You Believe? throws at you throughout the week, $1 shot Thursdays makes it a beloved establishment for the cash-strapped city dwellers. Such an economical deal means you will see a lot of broke-ass college students huddled in the small-sized dive bar that draws the occasional weekday crowd. The bar's outlandishly named drinks will tease you, but best to just stick to what everyone came there for: the really cheap shots. Be sure to get there by 10 p.m., because the deal ends when the clock strikes midnight; at about that time, patrons will swarm around the counter, making it that much harder to get your final shot. Hell, you might even make some new friends, the kind who will open a tab and share the drinks.

BEST COLLECTION OF OFFBEAT FOOTAGE

Oddball Film + Video

275 Capp St., oddballfilm.com

There's something awe-inspiring about the stacks of a great library. Tall, silent, rows of knowledge, history, and imaginary worlds, available to touch. Oddball is like that, except it's nestled in the Mission, the stacks are full of film, and every weekend you can watch some of it. Don't come expecting conventional movies, though: Oddball specializes in eclectic stock footage, especially of the odd and historically interesting. Its shows might juxtapose bizarre avant-garde cartoons with a 15-minute commercial for an early 1960s car, with a mental hygiene movie from the 1950s, and chase it down with a 1980s news report; somehow it works amazingly around a common theme. The brainchild of director Stephen Parr, Oddball provides its footage to companies and filmmakers across the globe. We're just lucky enough to be here for the shows.

BEST UNGENTRIFIED HOUSING

The "Hotel" Above Zeitgeist

199 Valencia St., 415-255-7505
zeitgeistsf.com

As beloved dive bars shutter their doors (RIP Pop's) and new, shiny condominiums spring up all over the Mission District, there is one place left that defies the tech empire's new, unsullied landscape of luxury: Zeitgeist. Just hanging out on the corner of Valencia and Duboce like a gigantic, broken middle finger covered in chipped black nail polish. Zeitgeist and the residences

above it are there to remind everyone what the Mission District was all about: punks, drunks, bicycle messengers, and the kinds of shady characters you used to buy weed from before there were dispensaries. Sure, this 27-year-old joint has been renovated downstairs in recent years, but those mysterious rooms overlooking the back patio remain utterly unchanged by the city's rising rents and rash of evictions. As other folks in the neighborhood fork out $1,000 a month or more for a room in a shared apartment, and one-bedroom rentals have reached an average of $3,500 per month, the Zeitgeist hotel remains utterly unchanged: blankets for curtains, a serious lack of kitchen facilities, wake-up times of 2 p.m., two toilets to be shared among two entire floors of residents and, yes, rent that's cheap even by BGB (that's: Before Google Bus) standards. Don't bother asking bartenders how to move in, they'll laugh you out of there.

BEST SMOKING PATIO
El Rio
3158 Mission St., 415-282-3325, elriosf.com

Let's face it, San Francisco is the kind of place where smokers get yelled at by health nuts for attempting to light up on the street. And the bars that still accommodate this (delicious) filthy habit are very few. Possibly the biggest blow to tobacco-loving bar-goers this year was the loss of Thee Parkside's back patio smoking lounge, all thanks to one patron who complained that the smoking area was too close to the kitchen. Asshole. Now everyone has to go stand out front, *without* their drinks. So where's a smoker to go? Well, there's the gravel pit of Zeitgeist, of course, but El Rio has the most consistently joyful backyard in San Francisco. Should they wish to abandon their ashtrays and move inside. Never change, El Rio!

BEST WAY TO MAINTAIN PUNK ROCK ROOTS WHILE ADAPTING TO NEW SURROUNDINGS
Needles & Pens
3253 16th St., 415-255-1534
needles-pens.com

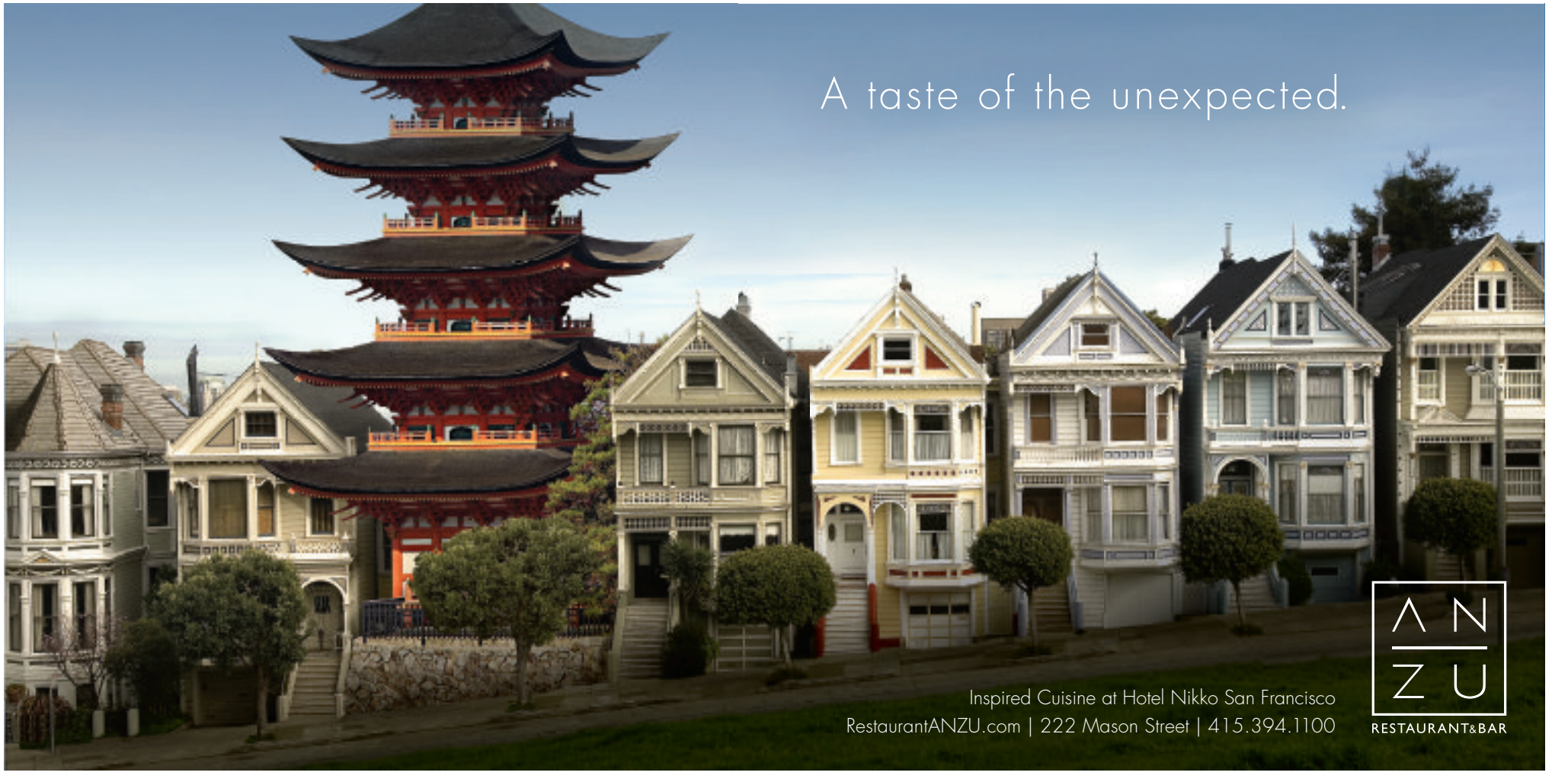
When it first opened on 16th Street in 2003, Needles & Pens was the greatest little punk rock store in San Francisco. It had zines! Tiny art shows! And Maximum Rock & Roll photography exhibits! Above all else, it was an establishment that supported a DIY ethic. Then Needles & Pens moved to Valencia and 23rd streets, relocating to a bigger, brighter space that made us worry it, too, was succumbing to gentrification. All of a sudden, Needles & Pens had window displays that didn't look like happy accidents. It started to look like … a boutique. Never fear, Needles & Pens' punk rock sensibility did not get lost in the move. If anything, it got more punk rocker-y, thanks to a bigger space for art and more shelf room for hand crafted awesomeness. Needles & Pens, despite its new, clean, modern veneer, is standing firm in the face of the gentrification of the Mission.

BEST LOWER HAIGHT TIME CAPSULE
Love N' Haight
553 Haight St., 415-252-8190

For those not in the know, Love N' Haight has always been an easy-to-ignore hole in the wall in the Lower Haight. Once upon a time, it was just a place that drunk vegan punks hit up after a long night of boozing at Molotov's or Toronado, because it catered to herbivores in the least pretentious way possible. These days, against all odds, not only is it still standing, but it remains largely unchanged. You can still get some of the best sandwiches in the whole city, served in a weird, quasi-Buddhist, somewhat-Atlantis-favoring (no, really) environment, for almost the same amount it charged back in 2002. It's not always the fastest service, the aesthetics are still strictly no frills, and there are no bathrooms for patrons, but the sandwiches are as perfect and delectable as ever — and at a price that won't dent your wallet.

BEST BARTENDER IN S.F.
Joey Picchi
1337 Mission St., 650-787-2432
oddjobsf.com

San Francisco has so many good bartenders that you can practically find them freecycled on the curb. But even in one of the cocktail capitals of the world, *great* bartenders are diamonds — precious beyond price. A great bartender is like a street poet, improvising beauty, making tastes to order, turning mixology into a biographical art. But San Francisco's best bartender, Joey Picchi? He's what happens when a street poet becomes a » p18



24 Hours Verification
Valid for a whole year
CA Licensed MD
100% Confidential

420MD.ORG
Fast lane to excellent cannabis care

$39 Renewal
$49 New Patients

420 MD is the Bay Area's only independent Medical Cannabis Evaluation Centers that are locally-owned by California Medical Board certified doctor.
Since 2013, 420 MD has provided award-winning services.

Together we can collectively create a community where all people have access to the medicine they need and are treated fairly and with respect.

Metro BEST OF SILICON VALLEY 2015

Medical Cannabis Evaluations
Growers Exemptions Available

2588 Telegraph Ave. Berkeley, CA 94704 (510) 204-9999
2633 Telegraph Ave. Ste100 Oakland, CA 94612 (510) 832-5000
2100 Watt Ave. Ste100 Sacramento, CA 95825 (916) 480-9000
1630 Oakland Rd. A118 San Jose, CA 95131 (408) 441-0230

ELITE CARE SF

20% OFF ALL FLOWER STRAINS
OFFER GOOD THRU MAY 2015

HOME OF THE BAKER'S DOZEN
BUY 12 EDIBLES GET 1 FREE

SENIORS & VETERANS 15% DISCOUNT

- Female Owned
- Put Individuals Needs First, Comprehensive Consultation
- 3rd Party Tested Medicines
- Highest Grade Designer Hybrids

FREE DELIVERY
WITH $55 MINIMUM DONATION

[e] elitecareSF
WWW.ELITECARESF.COM
415.324.8654 OR 844.420.0002

Only individuals with legally recognized medical cannabis recommendations may obtain cannabis from a medical cannabis collective/cooperative.

priest. The SRO room at OddJob was built around his talents: a bar where there is no menu and no drink is ever made twice. You come as a pilgrim and confess your heart's desire across the bar. Joey — who always remembers your name — will answer that prayer in drink form, creating a unique concoction on the spot that speaks to the yearnings of your soul. It's a miracle he performs nightly, and only SF's best bartender can get it right.

BEST CELEBRITIES WHO PASSED AWAY TOO SOON

The Brown Twins

Last year the world, and especially San Francisco, was struck with grief by Robin Williams' suicide, but there were other deaths that hit locals hard: the passing of twins Marian and Vivian Brown. The identical twins were born in 1927 and became nationally known as the San Francisco Twins. They dressed alike in flamboyant outfits and meticulously coiffed hair and walked in lockstep. They never broke character and exemplified true tenets of San Francisco: individuality and quirkiness. Vivian died in 2013 and Marian a year later, signifying the end of an era.

BEST CELEB BUSKER

Margaret Cho

margaretcho.com

After Robin Williams' unfortunate death at age 61, native San Franciscan and socially minded comic Margaret Cho felt some serious loss. "Don't mourn Robin," someone told her. "Be Robin." A hashtag was born, and the comedienne got to work. Cho's series of performances across the city included standup, musical performances, and charitable works for those in need of a meal, a haircut, or just a couple of bucks to make it through the day. She even did a strip tease on a chilly afternoon in front of the Victoria Theater, donating every last dollar bill her fans slid under her panty line. "There's no bigger joy than to make it rain on the homeless," Cho said.

BEST PLACE TO FEEL COMPLETELY AND UTTERLY ISOLATED AROUND TOURISTS

Alcatraz Island

Alcatraz Island, San Francisco
alcatrazcruises.com

Although the Alcatraz website claims that the flora and fauna of Alcatraz Island are the allure of the historic land mass jutting out of San Francisco Bay, there's a feeling they don't allude to for fear of losing customers: isolation. One quick tour boat visit to the former prison, among a ship full of tourists, and you're sure to have some serious bouts of anxiety that not even the strongest dose of Citalopram can overcome. Although the prison closed in 1969, it's still crowded with tourists who feel the need to share their experience with everyone they know by filling an 8 GB thumb drive full of images in one visit. How can one feel so alone among the nonstop camera shutters of so many people? If only we had somewhere to quarantine these folks — maybe somewhere they couldn't escape — we might have something.

BEST DENTIST

Dr. Shabnam Shariat

500 Sutter St., Suite 204, 415-781-6128

There are few reasons to willingly seek the help of a doctor or dentist. With Dr. Shabnam Sha-

Mike Koozmin

The San Francisco Firefighters, Local 798 congratulates the Best of San Francisco 2015 selections.

Since 1850, we have been proud to save lives and property in San Francisco.

It is our honor to serve you.

Photo by David Hawkins

Alexander Boardman

riat, you'd wish you had a toothache just to sit in her newly renovated Sutter Street office. Her sense of humor creates toothy grins, but she balances chair-side banter with exceptional skill at fixing dental imperfections without making us feel like we're strapped to an asylum chair. She's among the dental elite of the city and she'll remember even the smallest of details from conversations past, making one feel special and valued, not simply another patient in the roster. Get an appointment and request her favorite time: tooth-dirty (2:30 p.m.).

BEST HIDDEN ARCHITECTURAL GEM

Xanadu Gallery

140 Maiden Lane, 415-392-9999

xanadugallery.us

Alongside the high-end boutiques of Union Square, there is a building with a square facade composed of camel-colored bricks, famed architect Frank Lloyd Wright's only building in San Francisco. Originally called the V.C. Morris Gift Shop, the 1948 building is now the home of Xanadu Gallery. Wright designed a circular mezzanine that is reached by ascending a spiral ramp. This round platform became the prototype of Wright's signature creation: the Guggenheim Museum in New York City.

BEST VIEW OF A NONTRADITIONAL S.F. SKYLINE

Grand View Park

Yes, the name can be deceiving. This park won't offer you sweeping views of the Financial District and all its edifices, but it rewards those who make the steep hike uphill with a panoramic vision of the Richmond and Sunset districts, the regions that for many San Franciscans don't mean square houses or distance from all the action, but home.

BEST ROMANTIC NOVEL AUTHOR TO LET HER BUSH GET WILD

Danielle Steel and her Pacific Heights home

2080 Washington St.

With a mere 800 million copies of her books sold, Danielle Steel is the best-selling author alive, and the fourth greatest selling author of all time. Her books, 22 of which have been adapted for television, have been translated into 28 languages, but last year it was her home that made headlines. Steel, a local icon and resident, lives in the historic 1912 Spreckels Mansion, surrounded by a massive, approximately 30-foot-high shrub barrier she grew in order to protect her privacy. The hedge itself gained its own celebrity status — caused by a controversy. Chronicle critics called it "comically off-putting" and Steel fired back that San Franciscans "hate successful people." No matter what side of the debate you were on, we love when authors get hairy for their craft.

Ns NextSpace

Your Best Work Happens Here!

The Best Communal Office Space in San Francisco!

SF WEEKLY BEST OF SAN FRANCISCO WINNER 2015

Thank you to the Readers & our Community for voting for us!

Explore the NextSpace coworking (r)evolution

www.nextspace.us

San Francisco
28 2nd St.,3rd Floor
San Francisco, CA 94105
(415) 513-0456

Union Square
1 Hallidie Plaza, 2nd Floor
San Francisco, CA 94102
(415) 573-0856

Potrero Hill
365 Vermont St
San Francisco, CA 94103
(415) 573-0858

BEAHM LAW

THANK YOU SF Weekly Readers for voting Jason Beahm as the Best DUI Lawyer 2015

Contact us at **(415) 463-4297** or **1 (866) 765-9188**

Locations in San Francisco, Oakland, San Mateo, San Jose, San Diego and Los Angeles

5 Stars On Yelp • **https://www.beahmlaw.com/**

Courtesy of California Historical Society

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

LOCAL EXPERTS, GLOBAL REACH

Bonhams, founded in 1793, is one of the world's largest auctioneers of fine art and antiques, with more than 400 auctions annually in 60 specialist categories. With galleries in San Francisco, New York, Los Angeles and Toronto, Bonhams is the only major auction house in North America with salerooms on both coasts.

Call today to request a complimentary auction estimate.

+1 (415) AUCTION
info.us@bonhams.com

WILLIAM WENDT
The Old Coast Road
Sold for a world-record $1,565,000

Bonhams

bonhams.com/sf

© 2015 Bonhams & Butterfields Auctioneers Corp. All rights reserved. Bond No. 57BSBGL0808

Ever wondered what sparked the current ukulele craze in pop music? It all started at the Panama-Pacific International Exposition, where the uke made its U.S. debut, causing a sensation in the 1920s that's flared up periodically ever since. The 1915 world's fair in San Francisco showcased all kinds of ethnic arts and entertainment traditions, with more than 80,000 exhibits from 42 foreign countries.

"It left a lasting imprint on the San Francisco Bay Area," says Julie Mushet, executive director of the San Francisco Ethnic Dance Festival. To say the least! San Francisco today boasts some of the most diverse arts and entertainment offerings of any major U.S. city.

READERS POLL WINNERS

BEST GAMING SITE
BATTLE.NET

BEST SUNDAY FUNDAY
DOLORES PARK

BEST DANCE COMPANY
ODC

BEST LIVE THEATER
ACT

BEST MUSEUM
DE YOUNG

BEST TELEVISION STATION
KQED

BEST BLOG
SFIST

BEST DANCE PARTY
FRINGE

BEST GALLERY
111 MINNA

BEST RADIO STATION
BFF.FM

BEST NEW APP
HAPPN

BEST QUIZ NIGHT
EDINBURGH CASTLE

BEST COMEDY CLUB
COBB'S

BEST MUSIC FESTIVAL
OUTSIDE LANDS

BEST BAND
AMALGAMATION

BEST WAY TO FEEL YOUNG AGAIN

Musée Mécanique

415-346-2000, museemecaniquesf.com

Back in the day, few things were more exciting than grabbing a close friend, a sugary snack, a handful of sticky piggy-bank change, and spending the day at a video arcade. For most of us, this brain-bending ritual stopped around the same time that your braces came off. After one hits the teen years, it's a little creepy to continue hanging around children and coin-operated pinball and video machines — especially after videogames became available in the comfort of your own home. So what need is there for a San Francisco institution rooted in this tradition? Why would you visit an establishment filled with vintage pinball games, and carnival table-top amusements? A place with interactive attractions that are equal parts creepy, entertaining, and nostalgic? The Musee Mecanique is a collection of retro playthings that formerly were housed at Play Land at Ocean Beach, a pre-World War II era amusement park. The pinball machines and interactive, coin-operated games at the Musee are now housed in a warehouse along picturesque Pier 45. It boasts more than 300 games, slot machines, and vintage late-19th and early 20th century amusements with retro names like "orchestrion." Musee Mecanique is the best way to feel young again, whether you were born in 1933 or 1993. Bonus: the big, creaky, hilariously frightening mechanical doll known as "Laffing Sal."

BEST WEEKNIGHT DRAG SHOW

Aunt Charlie's Lounge

415-441-2922

auntcharlieslounge.com

If you're like us and don't shrink from dives with dark, funky-smelling corners, surly bartenders, and questionable clientele, Aunt Charlie's Lounge has the best drag shows in town. For San Franciscans who just can't wait for the weekend and the chance to get their drag on, Aunt Charlie's is there, ready and waiting. The classic establishment offers moderately priced alcohol and over-the-top, sequin-clad performers in abundance. Each month, on the second and fourth Wednesday, Aunt Charlie's presents the Dream Queens Revue for one of the most intimate drag shows in the city. Where else can you find your favorite queens like Collette LeGrande-Aston and Ruby Slippers performing inches away from your bar stool? Our cup runs over with love for you, Aunt Charlie. And yes, it also overflows with booze that is not wildly overpriced. Careful: Those drinks, like the drag performances on tap, pack a punch.

BEST PLACE TO TEST YOUR PIPES

Castro Theatre Sing-Along

415-621-6120

castrotheatre.com/singalongs.html

For all the time people spend belting their hearts out in their showers, cars, or drunkenly yodeling during midnight karaoke, you'd think America's collective voice would be better tuned by now. Fortunately for city dwellers, Castro Theatre provides a fun, inclusive way to show off your sterling pipes — or at least hold your own. At the legendary the Castro Theatre Sing-Along, it is the audiences' turn to shine. For more than 40 years now, classic and contemporary movie musicals have been presented as a group activity: Patrons aren't likely to be shushed here. In fact, participation isn't just encouraged, it is practically mandatory. And it's sweet really, because you haven't experienced *The Sound of Music* until you've heard a full theater go all "hisssssss," and "boooo!" at Nazis in that story. Another fun and cool aspect of the Castro Theatre Sing-Alongs: You win bonus points for dressing in costume because, come on, the only thing better than singing your heart out is singing your heart out while wearing a goofy-cool getup.

BEST MUSICAL EXPERIENCE INVOLVING 176 SPEAKERS

Audium

1616 Bush St.

audium.org

In the 1950s, mad geniuses Stan Shaff and Doug McEachern proposed that "space" is a component of music, and began designing performance spaces to prove it. Fast forward to 1970, whent the National Endowment of the Arts began giving them grants to construct "Audium" — a unique musical environment that includes a "sound labyrinth," a performance space with sloping walls, and 176 individual speakers, each one keyed to a separate element of the musical performance held in total darkness. There are, in fact, more speakers than there are seats, but Audium has been holding weekend performances for more than 40 years, making it both groundbreaking, long-lasting, and a unique experience.

BEST WAY TO GET ALL RILED UP

Red Hots Burlesque

415-672-4735, redhotsburlesque.com

The past 20 years have seen a surge in traditional burlesque dancing in San Francisco. Whether you thank sultry superstar Dita Von Teese, or » p26

CELEBRATING a DECADE of MAKING
10th
ANNUAL
BAY AREA

GREATEST
SHOW & TELL
ON EARTH

MAY 16+17
SAT 10AM–8PM
SUN 10AM–6PM
SAN MATEO EVENT CENTER

GET YOUR
TICKETS!
TODAY

makerfaire.com BROUGHT TO YOU BY Make: MAGAZINE

Maker Faire®

PRESENTED BY intel

GOLDSMITH SPONSORS AUTODESK DFROBOT DRIVE THE FUTURE Google ITA ITALIAN TRADE AGENCY sprout by hp

SILVERMITH SPONSORS AIRFRANCE Atmel Cognizant DREMEL NASA ROBLOX SketchUp TechShop BUILD YOUR DREAMS HERE

BEST LOCAL UP-AND-COMING ART COLLECTIVE

Malidoma Collective

c-proof.org/malidoma

BY NASTIA VOYNOVSKAYA

Malidoma Collective is a group of women-of-color artists, activists, and healers who use their many talents to throw community events that promote learning, self-care, and having fun. With rapper Queens D.Light, photographers Sasha Kelly and Kate Dash, painter Aambr Newsome, and videographer Lala Openi among their ranks, the members of Malidoma have channeled their diverse ambitions into a positive movement that's sweeping Oakland's burgeoning downtown art scene.

Malidoma was founded as a way to share skills and promote each other's work. Generosity and community-building are at the core of its projects. While it's thrown plenty of one-off events like potlucks, vintage clothing sales, and dance parties in the past, the collective has spent 2015 focused on more long-term projects. Earlier this year, it hosted a series of weekly, donation-based yoga and meditation classes at The Living Room Project, a DIY venue in West Oakland. The Doma Yoga workshops sought to bring these wellness practices to Bay Area residents normally underrepresented at typical studios, such as people of color, queer and trans folks, and young parents.

In the beginning of April, Malidoma Collective moved its headquarters to Omiroo Gallery (329 15th St., Oakland) for Shop Maater, its new pop-up boutique and gallery. The eclectic shopping destination features Malidoma members' artwork, as well as a selection of goods with an Afrofuturist bend. Well-curated, sparse displays of books, handmade apparel, healing crystals, and records fill the compact space, which is nestled amid a strip of vintage stores and galleries. Part of Oakland's newest art walk, Second Saturdays, Shop Maater drew an enthusiastic crowd on its opening night and is open to the public Monday through Saturday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

Though the members of Malidoma Collective come from such diverse disciplines — with musicians, visual artists, yoga teachers, and crafters among the bunch — they've successfully cultivated a cohesive vision that prioritizes community and creativity. Through a combination of stylized visuals, clever social media marketing, and thoughtfully produced, interactive events, their work continues to gain traction and will undoubtedly have an impact on Oakland — and the greater Bay Area — for years to come.

CreamyCoconut.org

the legendary "open-mindedness" of San Franciscans, burlesque seems to be everywhere — and who could complain about that? So while encountering the naked body is a surprisingly commonplace sight in San Francisco, it's safe to assume that not every topless or bottomless figure is one you'd necessarily want to sit back and observe. Some disrobing needs to be left to professionals, like the performers of the Red Hots Burlesque.

For more than a decade, the talented local troupe has been touring the city and performing at every venue — from El Rio to the Cat Club — leaving everyone in their path all hot and bothered. And while the primary draw might be the sexiness, it is the glamour, the costumes, and the incredible dancing that keeps the crowds coming back. There's something for everyone. A personal favorite: Go Deep: Queer Ladies Lube Wrestling, a monthly competition for lesbians, by lesbians in which participants battle for the title, and often win the hearts of the audience. With San Francisco's lesbian bars and entertainment options vanishing seemingly by the hour, Red Hots is an oasis for those seeking same-sex-oriented amusements of the female persuasion. » p28

33RD ANNUAL

SAN FRANCISCO JAZZ FESTIVAL

JUNE 9–21

— 43 CONCERTS IN 13 DAYS —

SNARKY PUPPY 06|10–13
JOHN SCOFIELD QUARTET
WITH JOHN MEDESKI 06|17
ROBERT GLASPER TRIO 06|19–20
PEDRITO MARTINEZ 06|21
CHUCHO VALDÉS, MICHEL CAMILO
& GONZALO RUBALCABAO 6|21

JULIAN LAGE & CHRIS ELDRIDGE 06|10–11
GOAPELE 06|14 SHELBY LYNNE 06|15
CAMPBELL BROTHERS: A LOVE SUPREME 06|16
GIULIA VALLE 06|17–18 ESTER RADA 06|18
WIL BLADES TRIO
FEATURING DR. LONNIE SMITH 06|20–21

TIFFANY AUSTIN 06|12 QUINN DEVEAUX 06|13
JONATHAN PORETZ 06|14
SMITH DOBSON V & PREZ KIDS 06|15
DAVINA & THE VAGABONDS 06|16
FRESHLYGROUND 06|19 AND MANY MORE...

SFJAZZ

TICKETS ▸ 866.920.5299 • SFJAZZ.org

BEST PLACE TO JAM FOR CHEAP WITH NO COMMITMENT

Music City Rehearsal

1353 Bush St.

OK, don't get too excited. This place definitely has a Guitar City jam session vibe to it, and any actual musician will be disappointed by the gear selection in the cheaper rooms, but let's be honest: How many places are there left to practice in the city? If you can't afford (or manage) to get five bands to chip in every month to rent out a real studio, then places like these are your next best bet — because you're certainly not going to be able to get a full band practice going in your shitty, overpriced Mission District apartment. The staff is friendly, the prices are fair, and if all you're doing is checking to see this next project is worth pursuing, this is the best spot to do it.

BEST TELEVISION SHOW FILMED IN SF

HBO's *Looking*

San Francisco is a starlet! From the silver screen to the our tablets, the City by the Bay has become a character in her own form. Even though several shows, such as *Party of Five* and *Full House*, have been set in our hilly streets, HBO's short-lived *Looking* was in a category all its own. The story of three gay men living in San Francisco and their forays into love, relationships, and self-discovery were filmed entirely in San Francisco and the surrounding Bay Area for the past two years. But more than just delving into gay themes, the show turned our metropolis into a protagonist. The city was more than just buildings and streets, it was a breathing, vibrant soul that was featured prominently at the forefront in every frame.

BEST LOCAL FILM TRAILER

The Last Black Man In San Francisco

vimeo.com/97971791

The Last Black Man In San Francisco's film trailer is a crisp, enticing invitation to dive into a historical era of San Francisco's black community (which was known as the "Harlem of the West" in the 1940s, '50s, and '60s). Viewers follow the story of a young, poverty-stricken San Francisco resident, Jimmy Fails. Portraying a fictionalized

Nat Talbot

version of himself, Fails chronicles the events of his childhood as he moved from place to place with a father who suffered from a crack addiction, causing him to be incarcerated over 50 times. The trailer helps viewers get to know Jimmy for his intelligence and wisdom, showing the balance of his deep familiarity with San Francisco and a piercing level of loneliness and displacement. The best part of the trailer is its ability to highlight the likability and calmness of Fails as he travelled through the Fillmore, never quite revealing if he actually overcomes his struggles, leaving viewers wanting to find out more about the courageous youth.

BEST IMMERSIVE STREET THEATER EXPERIENCE

We Players

1462 14th Ave., weplayers.org

Presenting site-integrated plays all around the city, We Players actors take their performance art out of stuffy theaters and put it right back onto the streets, reclaiming local landmarks for public discourse and civic celebration through art. Whether it's *Twelfth Night, or What You Will* at Hyde Street Pier, *Macbeth* at Fort Point, or *Hamlet* on Alcatraz, We Players actors have the ability to draw power out of their surroundings, channeling it into spectacular, immersive experiences for audience members unlike anything you'll see on Broadway.

FRIENDLIEST RECORD STORE TO SELL CDS TO

Rasputin

69 Powell St., 415-834-0267
rasputinmusic.com

If you're in the process of unloading years and years of shiny plastic in jewel cases, take heed: The happiest place to do it is the Union Square Rasputin. Sure, you may be more inclined to shop

Free Admission for 2015 & Free Guided Tours!

Explore Chinese masters, Yun sculptures, and classic 17th - 20th century European portraits and landscapes free all year.
On second Sundays each month at 1:30pm you can also learn more via our free guided tour!

1025 Market Street,
San Francisco, Ca 94103

(415) 376 - 6344

Open Tuesday - Sunday
10:00am - 5:00pm

www.iamasf.org

International Art Museum of America
Art & Community, Peace and Harmony

in the bountiful bowling alley expanse of Amoeba, but Rasputin has something just as appealing: nice humans buying your CDs and DVDs. Selling at Amoeba can be a gut-wrenching, passive-aggressive, disappointing, nightmare. By contrast, at Rasputin, the people sorting through your items will cheerfully chat about music with you while they work. Sometimes they even grab something from your pile and shout "Awesome!" We know which one we enjoy more.

BEST EMOJI APP MADE BY A LOCAL RAPPER

Basedmoji by Lil B

itunes.apple.com/us/app/basedmoji/id911162824?mt=8

Some things can be awkward to talk about, like borrowing money or asking your boo if they'd be down to try polyamorous dating. For those who need help finessing these delicate negotiations, Lil B's Basedmoji app illustrates a variety of crucial scenarios with whimsical graphics. Designed and developed by the internet rap sensation, Basedmoji is bizarre yet endearing, much like Lil B's social media presence. Named after his #based movement, which encourages an optimistic outlook and respect for all living things, Basedmoji is filled with positive slogans and adorable visuals. New additions to the app's latest version include illustrations of Lil B adopting rescue cats and dogs and Lil B on a jet ski. Casual fans who haven't been inducted into the cult of Based God probably will be after sending a few of these stickers, which make mundane digital communications that much more enjoyable.

BEST BEVERAGE MADE BY A YAY AREA RAPPER

Sluricane by E-40

earlstevensselections.com

E-40 is one of the few artists who has managed to stay relevant in the rap game since his debut in the early 1990s. Now in his late 40s, the gifted wordsmith has also proven himself to be a shrewd entrepreneur. Last year, he forayed into the beverage business with his line of flavored wines, Earl Stevens Selections, which was a hit among his multigenerational fan base. And this year, he released ESS' hyphier cousin, Sluricane by E-40. A bright pink, rum-based cocktail, Sluricane takes its name from the chorus of E-40's iconic 1995 song with The Click, "Hurricane," in which they describe the fabled drink as "strong enough to start a engine, mayne." With its regal packaging and fluorescent hue, Sluricane will make you feel like a baller when you drink it. The only drawback is the inevitable sugar hangover.

BEST FEMALE-FRONTED EXPERIMENTAL BAND

King Woman

Kristina Esfandiari's new music project, King Woman, is a dense, reverbed, and washed-out experimental band that is discreetly taking the Bay Area by storm. Esfandiari first emerged as one of the vocalists for the cult shoegaze band Whirr and is the face of her critically acclaimed solo project, Miserable. King Woman has tucked itself into a precise niche of experimental music by scraping the cream from Esfandiari's past projects to create a sound that is effectively noisy without being offensively off-kilter, or without charm and relevance. The band's forthright strangeness, which revealed itself when it covered forgotten 4AD band, Rema Rema's track "Fond Affections," is a recipe that allows King Woman to find exposure with new audiences who yearn for something different. King Woman stands out as a raw example of what darkness, a little Warhol art-house style, and pure individualism can do for a band.

BEST HARDCORE BAND

Living Eyes

livingeyes.bandcamp.com

Oakland's Living Eyes push hardcore punk to its breaking point, driving the genre all the way up to the cliff of power violence before veering off at the last minute with a classic-sounding breakdown or mid-tempo beat. Fueled » p30

BEST NEW RECORD STORE

1-2-3-4 Go! Records

1034 Valencia St., 1234gorecords.com

BY KYLE DASILVA

Under a shelf of B-list horror flicks and records by Against Me!, Beck, and OFF!, Steve Stevenson, owner of 1-2-3-4 Go! Records, watches shoppers browse his new store's collection in the space it shares with Lost Weekend Video.

"We have a small store and a very tight focus," Stevenson said. "Some places you browse for half an hour and come out with one record. I've always prided myself on a faster experience."

1-2-3-4 Go! Records opened on Valencia April 2 as the sister store of Stevenson's Oakland storefront of the same name. It shares its new San Francisco space with Lost Weekend Video, that organized an Indiegogo campaign and partnered with the Oakland record store and label to save its space. Now, the two separate stores share one location that hawks a finely curated selection of everything from new punk LPs to cult films on VHS.

"We had one woman who hadn't been into [Lost Weekend] in a couple of years," Stevenson said. "She reactivated her account, rented three movies and bought two records!"

Lost Weekend is no newcomer to the Bay Area punk scene. Adam Pfahler, the drummer of legendary Mission punk band Jawbreaker, opened the store in 1997 after the band split. Since then, it's played host to the Cinecave, an almost-nightly standup comedy venue, and established itself as a neighborhood fixture. Stevenson says that the new store won't host full-fledged rock and roll mayhem like the Oakland location does, but might hold acoustic performances.

In its first week of business, 1-2-3-4 Go!'s San Francisco store made comparable money to its flagship Oakland location, according to Stevenson.

"We've been received so well," Stevenson said. "It's been great. While everyone else is moving out, I want to prove that cool things can still be able to come into the Mission."

The record store just celebrated its grand opening on Record Store Day, where it had special releases and catering by Voodoo Van. One of those releases, a colored single by the Buzzcocks, was only available through the new San Francisco store.

BEST EXCUSE TO START YOUR WEEKEND EARLY

Popscene SF

Rickshaw Stop, 155 Fell St.
popscene-sf.com

BY ADRIAN SPINELLI

Aaron Axelsen and company have been throwing Popscene SF parties for damn near two decades and they haven't dropped off one bit. Quite the opposite in fact, as the weekly indie dance night, which takes over the Rickshaw Stop every Thursday evening, has featured some of the biggest acts in the world before they reached mega-stardom. Maybe you've heard of some of these hacks: Phoenix? Sam Smith? Florence + The Machine? Amy Winehouse?! I thought so.

About a year ago, Popscene had booked Sam Smith to play the 400-person capacity Rickshaw Stop. Less than a year later, Smith was selling out the 7,000 capacity Bill Graham Civic Auditorium and then went on to take home four Grammys, including Best New Artist and Record of the Year. While the Smith case presents an extreme, this is what Popscene SF does: gives San Francisco the opportunity to see some of the best artists in the world in an intimate venue. I mean … just think of the bragging rights you have if you were at that Sam Smith Popscene night?

If there's a quality that all of Popscene's acts have in common, it's the sheer danceability of their tunes; crazy dancing, smooth dancing, or grab your boo and sway dancing. This isn't the type of club night where you show up to sit on a couch and sip fancy cocktails. This is get up and move, feel-alive-type shit, while you pound another $4 Budweiser (a SF bargain!), or Jack & Coke, and bounce around with your friends to badass indie music at an intimate venue.

Among this year's highlights, Popscene has already hosted rising dance pop artist Shamir, highly touted synthpop trio WET, and Swedish singer Tove Styrke (not to be confused with behemoth star Tove Lo, who Popscene also hosted in 2014, NBD.) Back in March, I dropped by Popscene to see a new UK band called Wolf Alice. It absolutely rocked its way into "new discovery" status and is now set to play the larger Independent on May 14th. Popscene SF is where buzz-worthy bands come to start their ascent into mainstream relevance.

Yet, the sheer accessibility of Popscene SF nights is never lost. Local bands are often booked as opening acts and head honcho Aaron Axelsen, always an approachable dude, is manning the decks in between sets every night and playing music that you 'oughta be knowing. Last time out, I caught Aaron in a moment of nostalgia while talking about Popscene: "9 years ago we had Arctic Monkeys playing here…Arctic Monkeys!" Honestly, he should be low-key bragging about this. Find me a better time on a Thursday night than knocking back a few with friends at a local venue, with the possibility of seeing the next Arctic Monkeys, and I'm all ears. Until then, I'm taking Popscene SF.

only by their love of hardcore (and hatred of just about everything else), these vegan musicians consistently put on one of the finest hardcore shows you can see in the Bay Area. Drummer Val Saucedo is one of the genre's most technically proficient and exciting drummers. His blazing fast speed and intensity adds another layer to the band's live performance as attention from the crowd — usually reserved for the people with microphones in their hands — often shifts over to him.

MOST EXPENSIVE VENUE TO STAND OUTSIDE OF

Great American Music Hall

859 O'Farrell St., 415-885-0750
slimspresents.com

If you're a regular gig-goer in SF, you already know which venues are the priciest to drink in. But what about before you even get to the bar? What about when you're still on the street, in the will call line, waiting for the night to begin? Which is most expensive then? We know what you're thinking: Waiting in line is free, right? Well, sometimes it is, sometimes it isn't. And unfortunately, standing still anywhere in the Tenderloin comes with a price tag. It won't feel like you're spending much outside GAMH — a dollar here, a cigarette there — but by the time you get to the box office, you'll have three *Street Sheets* and two empty pockets. Good thing GAMH is worth it!

BEST FREE NIGHTLY LIGHT AND MUSICAL SHOW

Brian Goggin's "Carusso's Dream"

55 Ninth St.
metaphorm.org/portfolio/carusos-dream/

This San Francisco-based artist fuses his high-flying pieces, ranging from flapping books to fleeing furniture, with existing edifices and structures, injecting animal-like movements into inanimate objects. His most recent piece is faithful to his artistic style and definitely worth seeing. Consisting of a chorus line of 13 glass pianos suspended outside an apartment building at 55 Ninth St., this is more than a just visual spectacle — it entertains the ears as well. The artist enlisted CalArts MFA musician and technologist, Gabriel Rey-Goodlatte, to synchronize the lights inside the pianos to respond in harmony to famed Italian tenor Enrico Caruso's original recordings that play on FM station 90.9.

BEST ACOUSTIC SCULPTURE

The Marina Wave Organ

83 Marina Green Dr., 415-397-5673
exploratorium.edu/visit/wave-organ

If you want (or need) to catch a break, consider heading out to the Marina. Yes, the bro-y Marina District many of us try to avoid at all costs. The neighborhood has one spot that is soothing to the eyes and most importantly — the ears. The Wave Organ channels the surrounding tides to orchestrate a cacophony of calming, oceanic sounds. Built in 1986, the installation includes 25 organ pipes made of PVC and concrete, located at various heights within the former cemetery site that extends down into the bay waters. When the waves roll in, the pipes resound low gurgling notes that ebb and flow with the restless movement of the ocean and the changing of the tides. It's truly a seaside San Francisco symphony.

BEST PLACE TO WORK OFF TOUR

Arinell Pizza

509 Valencia St., 415-255-1303

Rent is a drag in San Francisco, especially if you're blowing all your hard-earned cash on guitar strings, drum sticks, and recording sessions. Thank God (and hail Satan) that Arinell Pizza remains in business. For 40 years the Bay Area's most authentic New York pizza joint has been "employing and feeding the Bay Area's most undesirable rockers." Members of Lecherous Gaze, Earthless, Annihilation Time, Genghis Kahn, Apache, Nightling, and Instant Asshole have all donned the Arinell trucker cap while slinging greasy slabs of pie. Sure, it's a pain in the ass to keep a constant rotation of creative miscreants on staff, but owner Ron Demirdjian looks at it all as a sort of punk rock patronage of the arts.

BEST ALL-AGES VENUE TO VISIT BEFORE IT'S GONE

The SUB-Mission Gallery

2183 Mission St., 415-255-7227
sf-submission.com

The Mission District's SUB-Mission gallery is in big trouble. Sky-rocketing rent, budget constraints, and a protracted battle with the city's Department of Building Inspection have the nearly 20-year-old venue on its last legs. The venue has stopped booking shows more than a month or two in advance, fearful it will » p30

THURSDAY NIGHTS

AT THE ASIAN ART MUSEUM

Spring and summer mean later sunsets and later hours at the Asian Art Museum. **We're open 'til 9 PM on Thursdays** and for just **$5 after 5 pm**, you can spend an evening with our architecture, galleries, special exhibitions, fun talks, lively gatherings and intimate hangs with artists. On first Thursdays, there are even cash bars, DJs and more. Here are some upcoming programs. For more, visit **www.asianart.org/thursdays**

5.07
BIG TASTE: SAKE AND **"LUCKY CHOW" SCREENING**
WITH DANIELLE CHANG

5.21
THE STATE OF THE STATE
A CONVERSATION ON FILIPINO/ AMERICAN ART IN THE BAY AREA

5.28
ARTISTS DRAWING CLUB: A GATHERING AMONG STARS
WITH MA LI

6.04
LESSONS FROM THE FAR EAST
NEW PERFORMANCE BY *28 CHINESE* ARTIST YAN XING

5.21
NO WORLD
A SCREENING WITH HERB TAM AND *28 CHINESE* ARTIST FAN LU

5.28
ARTISTS DRAWING CLUB: TESTIMONY
WITH ELIZA GREGORY

Asian

Asian Art Museum
Chong-Moon Lee Center
for Asian Art and Culture

200 Larkin Street
San Francisco, CA 94102
@asianartmuseum

have to cancel them if they don't last that long. So now's the perfect, and maybe (but hopefully not) last time, to visit the DIY club that has played hosts to musicians, artists, and performers of all kinds for so long.

BEST PERMANENT FREE ART EXHIBIT

Ruth Asawa at the de Young Museum

50 Hagiwara Tea Garden Dr., 415-750-3600
deyoung.famsf.org

At a recent Christie's auction of art displayed in San Francisco, a price tag of "$700,000-$900,000" was put on a beautiful Ruth Asawa wire sculpture from around 1950. Asawa's work was always valuable, even before her death in 2013, but her passing elevated her even more in the art world pantheon. This San Francisco luminary is rightfully celebrated in the city's most celebrated museum, the de Young, which has more than a dozen Asawa wire sculptures on display near the east entrance. You don't need a ticket to wander around this part of the museum, where Asawa's grand visions hang in the air like magical objects from a time gone by.

BEST EFFORT TO BEAUTIFY A NEIGHBORHOOD

Demetrio Braceros and his wood sculptures.

Cayuga Park

Cayuga Playground is more than just a place for children; it's the center of Demetrio Braceros' enchanting wooden sculptures that delight anyone who lay eyes on them. His artistic endeavor transformed a derelict public park into a treasured art haven for the community. Located in the Outer Mission, this 4-acre park is tucked away amid housing, Interstate 280, and the BART viaduct tracks. It was known as a zone of squalor, violence, and crime, prior to Braceros being assigned as its official gardener by the San Francisco Park and Recreation Department in 1986. Since then, Braceros created more than 375 wooden sculptures from the trunks and branches of the native woods in and near the local park. They vary in size, but are all full of vibrant colors as a celebration of joy to be found in public parks. The park is now a crown jewel within the neighborhood and a frequent hangout for children and adults.

BEST LOCAL AUTHOR

Armistead Maupin

armisteadmaupin.com

Only a few months after *The Days of Anna Madrigal*, the ninth book in Armistead Maupin's *Tales of the City* series, came out, the soon-to-be 70-year-old writer and his husband announced they were moving back to San Francisco after two years in Santa Fe. If 28 Barbary Lane were real, neither Maupin nor any of his characters would be able to afford it (well, maybe Mary Ann could) but that's hardly the point. Chronicling nearly four decades of S.F., *Tales* remains as relevant as it did in 1976, even if today's newcomers have no idea what Social Safeway was. Armistead Maupin, we are very glad to have you back.

BEST LITERARY MAG

Zyzzyva

57 Post St., Ste. 604, 415-757-0465
zyzzyva.org

What do Ursula K. Le Guin, Sherman Alexie, and Daniel Handler have in common (along with Lawrence Ferlinghetti, Amy Hempel, and Raymond Carver)? They've all been published in *Zyzzyva*, the thrice-yearly literary magazine is celebrating its 30th birthday May 29. An iconic publication that gave the world Po Bronson and Jill Soloway (among others), *Zyzzyva* has emphasized unheard voices and should give any burgeoning writer hope. Fiction, nonfiction, verse, and art: The journal of letters that's named for a snouted beetle has been at the forefront of them all, first under longtime editor Howard Junker and now under Laura Cogan, and continuing as a beacon of intellectual heft on the West Coast.

BEST CURE FOR MUSICAL MYOPIA

SF World Music

415-561-6571, sfworldmusic.org

The headquarters of this organization, which is dedicated to breaking down barriers among the world's music traditions, couldn't be more appropriate: It's in an office area adjacent to the most popular remaining structure from the 1915 Panama-Pacific International Expo — the Palace of Fine Arts. For nearly two decades, SF World Music has experimented with new ways

Not all photobooths are created equal...

or

The Laugh Box #Hashtag Photobooth

mobile device + social media = #hashtag photobooth

Introducing our revolutionary service, The Laugh Box #Hashtag Photobooth, a unique **booth-less** photobooth servicing the San Francisco bay area! This social media-based service allows your guests to take photos using **their own mobile device**, tag them on Instagram or Twitter using a specified hashtag, and in moments, their photos are automatically printed at our photostation*. Your guests no longer need to stand in long lines. They can take photos at any time and at any place which ultimately means more photos than a standard photobooth can produce! **Book your event today!**

Don't forget about The Laugh Box Flipbooks! For rates and availability, call 415.935.9807. For a video demonstration, visit us at www.thelaughbox.com.

*Wi-fi is required at your location

The Laugh Box You won't be able to contain yourself!

to not only bring together music traditions from around the globe (via concerts, workshops, live-streaming, and more), but also to make the all-important connection between music and social justice. Last year's Music Unplugged brought master musicians and younger apprentices from countries including Iran, Zimbabwe, India, China, Azerbaijan, and Ireland. Part of SF World Music's "The War Project," the event focused on the ways music has been used during wartime for everything from propaganda to protest. Another event will be streamed this fall from S.F., Beijing, and Baku. » p34

BEST EXCAVATED SOUNDS OF UNDERGROUND DANCE

Delusions of Grandeur by Hardkiss Music

hardkissmusic.com

BY TONY WARE

Hardkiss Music successfully completed a crowdfunding campaign to reissue a 20th anniversary remaster of *Delusions of Grandeur*, a long out-of-print double album of hallucinatory acid funk that revives a hedonistic, idealistic, outlaw era.

Nowadays EDM is burning up the charts, but in the early '90s — when Hardkiss Music was orginally active — rave music just seemed to be threatening to set the hills on fire.

"We were going to [the Wicked Sound System's] Full Moon beach parties, the Gathering parties, and I remember being in a field somewhere in the East Bay and the hill started burning, people came to put it out and the party went on," recalls Gavin Hardkiss, one-third of the Hardkiss Music "band" of DJs including his "brothers" Robbie and Scott Hardkiss. "Every weekend there were these bonfires on the beach, and all these epiphanies in places you'd never think there would be an event."

Like many members of that scene, the Hardkiss brothers were transplants to the Bay Area with roots in acid house and baggy beats. They imported the adrenaline rush of illegal parties held on abandoned Brooklyn train tracks and the sweaty communal freakout of seeing Madchester bands at Glastonbury. Pouring a love for psychedelic bliss, soulful Balearic house, and sampledelic hip-hop into an arcane basement studio set up in Twin Peaks, Hardkiss released tribal aquatic electro trance that would become indelibly San Francisco through sheer willful self-promotion.

"One thing we did well in the '90s was send free records to people. They had a San Francisco address on the back so people started saying it was the 'San Francisco sound,'" laughs Gavin. "We didn't think we were 'West Coast,' but we did share a love of organic, euphoric moments that matched the local mythology."

These dawn-breaking-over-the-waters vibes coalesced into the 14-track compilation *Delusions of Grandeur*, which became legendary in the electronic music world through its scarcity. Hardkiss Music as a label went dormant in the late '90s, staying that way until 2014's release of *1991*. Scott tragically passed away in 2013, but Gavin and Robbie partnered with his wife, Stephanie, to revive the Hardkiss outlet. The trio used crowdfunding to produce a deluxe presentation of *Delusions of Grandeur*, which has new life breathed into its macro and micro elements.

The album now comes with a more richly defined low end that's been road-tested by Gavin during his weekly residency at Hawthorn. With the album's physical and spiritual dynamics augmented, Gavin and Robbie also set out to interpret the music as a live experience, booking a party at Public Works for May 30 featuring longtime collaborators Dave Christophere and DJ Three. The Hardkiss brothers also hope that hearing *Delusions of Grandeur* — which sits nicely ethos-wise alongside the quirky DIY of current crews like DirtyBird and PillowTalk — will entice folks to purchase the equally remastered vault of over 60 rare and unreleased tracks available on PledgeMusic. In total this offers a full snapshot of a time that falls firmly in the "if you can remember it clearly, you probably weren't actually there" category.

BEST ART AT A LAUNDROMAT

El Arroyo Laundry

2683 Harrison St., 415-648-5515

"Arroyo" means "stream" in Spanish, and the mural on El Arroyo Laundry's outside wall, by Ernesto Paul, depicts a mountainous stream in Latin America where women are washing clothing amid reeds, rocks, and waters that are the epitome of idyllic. Paul drew the mural in 2007, and its artful inclusion of a church, temple, armed peasant, guitar-carrying horseman, Aztec warrior, flying birds, and other important symbols give this large artwork its epic feel, and connect the act of laundry to a historic scene that's much, much bigger than washing a shirt or two.

BEST ARTISTIC EFFORT TO RECYCLE AND REPURPOSE

The Kiosk Museum

kioskmuseum.com

San Francisco is known for being the greenest city in America, and we sure love to recycle everything, including paper, clothing, and ideas. In 2013, Elsa Cameron from Community Arts International opened the Kiosk Museum as a way of injecting visual culture and education into busy areas like Union Square by repurposing abandoned ivy-green silos that used to be newsstands. The museums are visible only from the sidewalk, not the street, making them little hidden caverns of curiosities for anyone who stumbles upon them while engaging in a little retail therapy.

BEST ONE-MAN EFFORT TO DOCUMENT THE SF JAZZ SCENE

BayTaper

BayTaper.com

BayTaper.com, an online multimedia documentary featuring live audio recordings, videos, and photography has been tirelessly capturing live jazz and acoustic music in the San Francisco Bay Area since 2005. The site, although not the flashiest of webpages, is a treasure trove of beautifully shot videos and photographs. Jazz fans can peruse the vast collection of multimedia nuggets and download their favorites. Reading the accompanying descriptions and other writing on the site, we can tell this passion project is done with a level of enthusiasm reserved for only the most hardcore music fans — which only makes it that much more enjoyable.

BEST INTERNATIONALLY RENOWNED TRAVELING QUEER PARTY AND DJ COLLECTIVE

Honey Soundsystem

BY CHRIS ZALDUA

Shanna Doherty

Putting a good party together is hard work. A party worth attending requires a solid vision, an excellent soundsystem, talented, relevant guests, and a committed, passionate crowd. Even if a promoter manages to cobble all these things together, though, it's the long run where things get difficult: Throwing parties week after week, month after month, year after year takes quite a toll — mentally, physically, and fiscally. But for the promoters and DJs who manage to stick it out, it's in the long run where things get interesting. Honey Soundsystem has been throwing parties since 2006; originally a duo consisting of Jacob Sperber and Ken Woodard, it quickly expanded to a foursome, now comprising Jacob Sperber (aka Jackie House), Jason Kendig, Josh Cheon, and Robert Yang (aka Bézier). Honey Soundsystem began as an attempt to fill a hole (pun honestly not intended) in the mid-'00s gay scene of San Francisco, in which mainstream dance music ruled the roost and underground house, techno, and disco were woefully underrepresented. In 2008, Honey launched its weekly Sunday night residency at The Holy Cow, an otherwise very-heterosexual club on Folsom Street. For five years (that's roughly 250 parties, but who's counting?) it hosted a who's who of underground electronic music, regularly bringing out world-renowned DJs to play its cozy weekly party. After its weekly party ended in 2013, Honey Soundsystem took it up a notch, throwing parties less frequently but on a much larger scale. Its parties now occupy some of San Francisco's largest dancefloors (Public Works, Mighty, and Gray Area's newly reopened theater have all hosted Honey Soundsystem events) and regularly feature visual extravaganzas, as Honey collaborates with local artists to create full-scale lighting installations that look like nothing else in San Francisco. But what really makes Honey Soundsystem more than "just a party" is the talent and work each individual member of the collective puts back into the scene. Josh Cheon also runs Dark Entries Records, a record label with a global fanbase dedicated primarily to reissuing lost post-punk, Italo disco, and synthpop gems; as Bézier, Robert Yang creates icy, emotional, undulating synth music that, while sounding like it was plucked straight from 1978, still sounds noticeably fresh; Jason Kendig is probably the most accomplished DJ of the group, with a career stretching back decades, into Detroit; and last but not least, Jacob Sperber's sassy DJ alter ego, Jackie House, must be seen to be believed. And they're taking the show on the road: Besides each individual member being booked at various clubs and parties around the world, Honey Soundsystem is hosting a six-date residency at Chicago's Smart Bar, which launched this year, in which it pays homage to "the queer history of the dancefloor," reclaiming the club floor as a space for gay men by gay men. In the final analysis, though, there's no need to wax lyrical about how fine Honey Soundsystem parties are; simply go to the next one yourself, enjoy the warm, welcoming crowd, and lose yourself to the throb of timeless dance music.

BEST CONTEMPORARY DANCE COMPANY

Alonzo King LINES Ballet

26 Seventh St., 415-863-3040

linesballet.org

By its very foundation and structure, ballet doesn't allow for much fluidity in its form and execution. Alonzo King, a San Francisco-based choreographer, and his dance company Alonzo King LINES Ballet challenge that perception by injecting contemporary rhythms and sophisticated modernism into classical dance. King calls his works "thought sculptures," and every nuanced movement carried out by a dancer has a total sensory impact on the viewer. This company embraces the spirit of San Francisco: innovating what exists to bring forth something ethereal and unique.

BEST LOCAL INTERNET RADIO STATION

Radio Valencia

radiovalencia.fm

Broadcasting everything from *Sober Happy Hours*, a show spreading information regarding assistance in addiction recovery and sobriety, to *Cold Ones and Rolled Ones with Ami Lawless*, which features shit talk and shenanigans with guests set to hardcore, punk, and metal, Radio Valencia takes the spirit of pirate radio to the depths of the internet. Operating as a community-focused, volunteer-run, noncommercial internet radio station in the heart of the Mission District, the station prides itself on serving as a bullhorn for its community. It may be out of reach of the FCC since moving to internet, but it's not out of yours, so tune in and kick back.

BEST ARTIST FROM A SAN FRANCISCO FUTURE

Precita Eyes Muralists

2981 24th St., 415-285-2287

precitaeyes.org

The mural art form serves a dual purpose: Besides being pleasing to the eye, murals are meant to be educational and uplifting. Precita Eyes Muralists, a community-based and nonprofit arts collective in the Mission District, embodies these principles. Already responsible for the creation of more than 400 murals in San Francisco and abroad since its establishment in 1977, Precita Eyes' next big project will adorn the walls of a new San Francisco building housing the Mexican Museum, which will be on Mission and Third streets and open to the public in 2018.

Award-Winning Karaoke Bar since 1992!

SF WEEKLY BEST OF SAN FRANCISCO WINNER 2015

THE MINT KARAOKE LOUNGE ★ KARAOKE AT IT'S FINEST ★

As featured on TV:
KPIX Channel 5, KQED Channel,
ZAGAT Rated Excellence 2007 - 2014,
SF Bay Guardian, Best Of The Bay 2005 - 2014,
Best Karaoke Bar - SF Weekly 2005 - 2014,
"2010 Best of the Baylist Winner - SF Chronicle"
and Best of AOL

WHERE THE STARS COME TO PARTY!

BEST OF BAY WINNER

The Bay Area's Entertainment HOT SPOT!
Karaoke 365 days a year!
2PM - 2AM DAILY

Having a birthday, anniversary, office party?
Don't delay! Book your party today!

The Mint Karaoke Lounge
1942 Market Street • 415.626.4726 • www.themint.net

"GUT-BUSTING!" —HOLLYWOOD REPORTER

ONE MAN, TWO GUVNORS

BY RICHARD BEAN
Based on *The Servant of Two Masters*
by Carlo Goldoni
With songs by Grant Olding

DIRECTED BY DAVID IVERS

STARTS FRIDAY!

Call 510 647-2949 · Click berkeleyrep.org
Berkeley Rep

SEASON SPONSORS
BART · KPIX 5 · WELLS FARGO

USS HORNET MUSEUM

- ★ *Tours & School Programs*
- ★ *15 Aircraft & Space Artifacts*
- ★ *Social & Corporate Events*
- ★ *Patriotic & Educational Events*
- ★ *Dances & Celebrations*
- ★ *Unique Wedding Site*
- ★ *Youth & Family Overnights*
- ★ *Rental Spaces for 30 or 3,000*

(510) 521-8448 ★ www.uss-hornet.org
707 W Hornet Ave, Pier 3 • Alameda, CA 94501 • Open Daily 10am–5pm • FREE Parking

Bring this ad in to receive $2 OFF each Adult regular daytime admission!
Offer expires December 31, 2015 ★ NOT VALID AT SPECIAL EVENTS OR WITH OTHER OFFERS
Audio devices require a separate fee and are subject to availability

Saturday, **MAY 9, 2015** 11am-6pm

www.SpicyUnlimited.com

Courtesy of California Historical Society

SHOPPING & SERVICES

Accounting for Small Businesses

Call 415-399-9844

582 Market Street, Suite 1700, San Francisco, CA 94104

kyb

Keeping
Your
Balance

SF WEEKLY
BEST OF
SAN FRANCISCO
WINNER
2015

Reliable | Responsive | Secure

hello@keepingyourbalance.com

READERS POLL WINNERS

BEST ADULT STORE
GOOD VIBRATIONS

BEST ANTIQUE SHOP
STUFF

BEST APPLIANCE STORE
AIRPORT APPLIANCE

BEST AUTO REPAIR
TOY SHOP AUTO

BEST BANK
WELLS FARGO

BEST BICYCLE SHOP
VALENCIA CYCLERY

BEST CAMERA STORE
SAMY'S

BEST CAR WASH
TOUCHLESS

BEST CARPET CLEANER
MOTHER NATURE

BEST CARPET STORE
CALIFORNIA CARPET

BEST DRY CLEANER
GREENSTREETS

BEST EYEWEAR STORE
VEO

BEST FARMERS MARKET
FERRY BUILDING

BEST FLOOR STORE
FLOOR CRAFT

BEST FURNITURE STORE (TIE)
LEFTOVERS, ROOM & BOARD

BEST GROCERY DELIVERY
INSTACART

BEST HAIR SALON
GLAMA RAMA

BEST HARDWARE STORE
COLE HARDWARE

BEST HIGH END LIQUOR STORE
CASK

BEST HYBRID CAR
PRIUS

BEST JEWELRY STORE
GALLERY OF JEWELS

BEST LIQUOR DELIVERY SERVICE
SAUCEY

BEST MANICURE & PEDICURE
HAND JOB

BEST MARIJUANA DISPENSARY
SPARC

BEST MASSAGE
KABUKI

BEST MATTRESS STORE
MANCINI

BEST MEDICAL MARIJUANA DOCTOR
PRICELESS

BEST MEDICAL SPA
SERENITY MED SPA

BEST MENSWEAR STORE
MACY'S

BEST OIL CHANGE
OIL CAN HENRY'S

BEST PET STORE
PET CLUB

BEST PHARMACY
WALGREENS

BEST MEAL DELIVERY SERVICE
BLUE APRON

BEST PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION AGENCY
BART

BEST RECORD STORE
AMOEBA

BEST RIDE SHARE COMPANY
LYFT

BEST SELF STORAGE
SOMA SELF STORAGE

BEST SHOE STORE
PIPERS SHOE PARLOR

BEST SPA
KABUKI

BEST TATTOO SHOP
BLACK AND BLUE

BEST TIRE SHOP
LARKIN

BEST VACUUM STORE
PHILS ELECTRIC VACUUM CTR

BEST VINTAGE SHOP
RELIC VINTAGE

BEST WINE STORE
K&L

BEST WOMEN'S APPAREL
AMBIANCE

THANK YOU SAN FRANCISCO

SF WEEKLY
BEST OF SAN FRANCISCO
WINNER
2015

DOLAN

WE ARE THE BEST LAWYERS
WE HOPE YOU'LL NEVER NEED

COMMUNITY
EQUALITY JUSTICE

DOLAN LAW FIRM

PERSONAL INJURY | ELDER ABUSE | EMPLOYMENT | HARASSMENT

DOLANLAWFIRM.COM | 415.421.2800 | 1438 MARKET, SAN FRANCISCO, CA

If you boarded a miniature Overfair Railway train at the eastern end of the 1915 Pan-Pacific Expo, you'd pass the Palace of Machinery and then head west along San Francisco Bay at the northern edge of the fairgrounds. Stop at any of the six stations along the way and you could get out and enjoy all the shopping, services, and exhibits the fair had to offer. Today, San Francisco public transportation has expanded to include more modern options like BART or Uber — but one of the main reasons for taking public transportation in the first place remains the same: to go shopping!

BEST PLACE FOR ANTIQUITIES

Stuff

150 Valencia St., 415-864-2988
stuffsf.com

Although the name of this store may seem generic, the proper underlying adjective would be treasure. From a phallic display lamp to vintage postcards from the Pan American Exposition of 1915, there's no telling what you'll find in this secondhand mecca. San Francisco is a city constantly rebuilding itself, and our fellow citizens follow suit through the acquisition of wardrobe and physical possessions. Luckily, we have a mega thrift store that facilitates our expressions of individuality: on our person or abode.

BEST USED BOOKSTORE

Aardvark Books

227 Church St., 415-552-6733

It's getting harder and harder to find a decent used bookstore in San Francisco. If it's not already closed, then the few remaining are in obscure pockets of the city. Aardvark Books, in the Castro/Church area is, at first, difficult to locate with all the surrounding lights and pageantry of other merchants and shops; but once stepping past the wood door and hearing the little bell cling, one may never leave because of all the wonder and curiosities lining the shelves. From contemporary magazines to dusty leather bound editions of Western Canon texts, there's a guaranteed page-turner along every shelf. And if you ever feel like Belle in *Beauty and the Beast*, you can trade your own books to get new ones or just cash.

BEST BOOK STORE TO GET LOCAL FLAVOR ALONGSIDE THE CLASSICS

Book Passage

Ferry Building Marketplace Shop #42, 415-835-1020
bookpassage.com

The Ferry Building is just one of those sites that is on every local's list of buildings or areas to steer clear from at all costs — it's tourist central. Yet the edifice's local book store, Book Passage, is giving us plenty of reasons to visit time and time again. Besides the ample selections of the standard genres, Book Passage, places an emphasis on local travel, boating in the Bay Area, food and cooking, sustainable agriculture, and volumes of photo and gift books on the Best of the Bay. Local celebrity authors such as Armistead Maupin and Amy Tan also do public readings on a frequent basis. Finally, with the local pastry shops in the building, there's more than enough reasons to get a book and let your imagination and sounds of the city engulf you.

BEST LITERALLY UNDERGROUND COMEDY

Cinecave at Lost Weekend Video

1034 Valencia St., 415-643-3373
lostweekendvideo.com

One of the Cinecave's regular comedy showcases is named *People Under the Stairs*, which only sounds weird until one realizes that it literally takes place *under the stairs* of Lost Weekend Video. The comedians range from homegrown favorites to touring comics, and what the venue lacks in Cobb's Comedy Club-sized polish, it makes up for in buzz. The seats are cushy, the drinks are cold, and if the venue were any more intimate, you'd be making out with the headliner.

BEST BIRTHPLACE OF YOUR NEXT WILD COSTUME

Fabric Outlet

2109 Mission St., 415-552-4525
fabricoutletsf.com

San Franciscans take costumes very seriously. We need a banana costume in breathable fabrics for Bay to Breakers, a playa-ready leather bikini for Burning Man, and we're already working on our fully articulated Xenomorph suit for next year's inaugural Silicon Valley Comic Con. Family-owned Fabric Outlet crams racks upon racks of fabrics, from the sublime to the strange, into a subterranean dungeon bursting with sartorial possibilities. The freewheeling Fabric Outlet may not have the cachet of » p46

BEST BOOKSTORE WE'RE ROOTING FOR TO SURVIVE

Modern Times Bookstore Collective

2919 24th St., 415-282-9246
moderntimesbookstore.com

BY GISELLE VELAZQUEZ

San Francisco is built on the bones of beloved bookstores. A Different Light, which peddled LGBT-focused books in the Castro until shuttering in 2011, is now a posh men's boutique. Marcus Books, a black-owned business that narrowly survived the 1960s redevelopment of the Fillmore, was evicted in May 2014 after being designated a historic landmark by City Hall.

In the Mission, the Modern Times Bookstore Collective has been determined to carry on the progressive fight since it was founded in 1971.

It's a platonic ideal of a used bookstore, a place to while away an afternoon amid haphazard stacks of dog-eared books and even some new releases, a place where the amiable staff is more than willing to put down their vegetarian burritos to help you find that special tome. It's also a nexus for hard-to-find zines, progressive texts in English and Spanish, and community events such as its ongoing forums on gentrification.

Unfortunately, gentrification is also bearing down hard on Modern Times.

"We've certainly always cared about gentrification and development that favors rich people," says Ruth Mahaney, a member of the collective since 1981 who was staffing the store on a recent afternoon. "It's always been what we're about, but it's also hit us personally. Now, being in the Mission and watching it change so fast ... it's hard. "

The bookstore, which occupies a block of 24th Street where Spanish is still regularly heard on the streets, at least for now, has survived being bumped from its prime Valencia Street location due to the same rising rents that are also affecting its customer base.

Courtesy of Modern Times

"A lot of our stalwart customers have moved elsewhere because of high rents," Mahaney says.

The Spanish-language book club still meets there, and on any given Sunday you might find a spoken-word performance or the authors of *Island: Poetry and History of Chinese Immigrants and Angel Island 1910-1940* shedding light on the detained Chinese immigrants who scratched desperate poetry on barrack walls.

But the bookstore is hurting now, and is looking to the community for financial support — even just by buying some cool books or trinkets — as it offers more special events and looks at applying for grants.

"We've never been a hugely profit-making enterprise. And that's never what we were trying to do," Mahaney says, reflecting on the changing landscape for brick-and-mortar bookstores in the city. "But even the places that did try to do that ended up going out of business."

West Coast Leather

WE TRY TO TREAT EACH CLIENT LIKE A ROCK STAR

In San Francisco, Leather is Always in Fashion

"FRIENDS & FAMILY" SALE ALL OF MAY **DISCOUNT: BOFBAY**

WE SPECIALIZE IN ALTERATIONS & SPECIAL ORDERS

UNION SQUARE FLAGSHIP LOCATION

290 SUTTER STREET @ GRANT AVE • 415- 362-8300

WWW.WESTCOASTLEATHER.COM

AUTHENTIC VINTAGE APPAREL & ACCESSORIES FOR MEN & WOMEN

OPEN DAILY

www.relicvintagesf.com

1605 HAIGHT ST AT CLAYTON, SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94117 • 415.255.7460

FOR ALL YOUR ART SUPPLY NEEDS, SHOP

BLICK®

art materials

VISIT US IN SAN FRANCISCO!

979 MARKET ST
(BETWEEN 5TH & 6TH) 415-348-8600

149 NEW MONTGOMERY ST
415-777-6920

1930 VAN NESS AVE
415-409-1359

20% OFF ONE NON-SALE, IN-STOCK ITEM

VALID 5/7/15 - 6/20/15

Blick Art Materials, LLC. In-store promo only. Valid at Blick and Utrecht locations. Coupon must be surrendered at time of purchase; no copies. One coupon per day. Valid on non-sale, in-stock items. Not valid on previous purchases or with any other discounts or promotions. Not valid on phone/mail/internet orders, or purchases of Sensu, Wacom, CAMEO cutting tools, Artograph light boxes & projectors, gift cards or school kits.

BLICK® art materials

A016262

BLICK ART MATERIALS

INTERNATIONAL ART GALLERY

東海堂

Original Japanese Woodblock Prints & Paintings
Featuring Hokusai, Hiroshige, Hasui, Yoshida, Yoshitoshi & more

JAPAN CENTER #202
1581 WEBSTER STREET
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF. 94115
TEL/FAX (415) 567-4390

www.tokaidoarts.com

Volunteers Wanted

UCSF is enrolling adults age **65 or older** for a study on **Depression** and cognitive function

If you are age 65+ and feeling down or depressed, you may....

- Help researchers understand depression
- Have an MRI and PET scan of your brain
- Complete tests of memory and concentration
- Earn up to $215 for participating

For more information, please call the UCSF Late Life Depression Program:

(415) 476-7046

SF WEEKLY BEST OF SAN FRANCISCO

Britex Fabrics downtown, but its huge selection and reasonable prices make it a required stop for everyone from the home sewer making a cute shift dress to the most ambitious cosplayer.

BEST ABSOLUTELY BONKERS HOUSEWARES

Daiso Japan

22 Peace Plaza, 415-359-9397
various other locations, daisojapan.com

Daiso Japan doesn't just sell strange Japanese tchotchkes (most for only $1.50!). It sells miracles, for how else could one describe a crab-shaped cutting board, a sushi-shaped eraser, or a plastic doohickey that molds hardboiled eggs into rubbery white hearts? The Japanese mega chain has stores from Saudi Arabia to Myanmar to Brazil, which is enough to make heads explode at the Planning Department, but we just can't say no to pink shark-shaped silicone oven mitts.

BEST SEX SHOP

Good Vibrations

603 Valencia St., 415-513-1635
various other locations, goodvibes.com

The market for AA batteries would collapse without Good Vibrations. The toys on its shelves, from vibrators to masturbation sleeves to strap-on harnesses, make it the Williams-Sonoma of sex. But when Good Vibrations opened in the Mission District in 1977 to provide women with quality sex toys and information, it was an audacious act of feminism just 14 years removed from Betty Friedan's *The Feminine Mystique*. The first to offer women a refuge from the "adult bookstores" that trafficked in sticky floors and hostile glares, Good Vibrations spread quickly and inspired kindred shops across the world. It's the reason why "personal massagers" and vibrating cock rings are available at your local drugstore, and for that we raise our Magic Wands in thanks.

BEST RESPONSE TO RISING MINIMUM WAGE

Comix Experience

305 Divisadero St., 415-863-9258
2381 Ocean Ave., 415-239-2669
comixexperience.com

Thanks to Proposition J, San Francisco's minimum wage will rise to $15 an hour by 2018. That means more money to spend on hoverboards and sexbots, or just giving us working stiffs the tiniest hope of staying in the city. Still, it's a challenge for small businesses; Comix Experience reckons it'll need to generate an extra $80,000 in annual sales to meet the increase. Instead of throwing in the towel, the shop, which has been feeding our comic addictions since 1989, is trying out a new revenue stream: a curated graphic novel of the month club, starting in July. In addition to dishing out the most exciting new graphic novels (not *Stubbly Muscleman Vol. 1*), Comix Experience will host invite-only book club meetings and throw other perks at subscribers. With prices at $20-$25 a month, it could be a major hit for both lazy comics fans and small businesses.

BEST UNDERRATED COMIC BOOK SHOP

Cards and Comics Central

5424 Geary Blvd., 415-668-3544
candccentral.com

If you've been in San Francisco for any appreciable length of time, and you're a comics fan or all-purpose geek, you've been to Cards and Comics Central. In addition to comic books, the Inner Richmond shop has earned a reputation for stocking even the most inscrutable of collectible card games, pop-culture ephemera, and fancy vinyl figures (just call them dolls already, people). Throw in the blessedly amiable staff, and Cards and Comics Central is all that and a box of bacon gumballs (yep, they stock those, too).

BEST STRANGE GIFTS

Paxton Gate

824 Valencia St., 415-824-1872
paxtongate.com

In the *Harry Potter* heptalogy (that's a trilogy times two, plus one), there is a Room of Requirement at Hogwarts Castle where students can find whatever they need — books, potions, a room full of chamber pots. In San Francisco, our needs are somewhat more ... unusual, but certainly no less dear. Paxton Gate — purveyor of strange taxidermy, garden delights, odd curios, and more — saves our skins when we need a last-minute birthday gift or perfect hostess gift (we have weird friends, OK?). If it's a kid you have in mind, and that youngster wouldn't absolutely adore a dodecahedron hanging lamp or a mounted and framed tarantula (just $35!), the nearby Paxton Gate for Kids has cool puzzles, books, and toys for the deeply weird San Franciscans of the future.

BEST NEIGHBORHOOD BOUTIQUE

Paragraph

1234 Ninth Ave., 415-759-1234
facebook.com/paragraphsf

Damn, boy/girl/gender-transcending-sexpot, why are you so fly? Maybe it's because you've been shopping at Paragraph, an independently owned boutique carrying clothing, jewelry, and accessories from local designers. In addition to cute » p46

SCHMITT
Heating & Air-conditioning
Contractors Since 1876

Factory Authorized Dealer Carrier

Proudly serving San Francisco and the Bay Area for over 100 years.
We specialize in residential and commercial installations and service

OPEN M-F 7AM - 4:30PM | 415.522.0966

DESIGN · BUILD · MAINTAIN
EST: 1990
JANET MOYER
Landscaping

Specialists in Residential

Urban Landscaping

Janet Moyer Landscaping specializes in the creation of "Water-wise" custom residential landscapes that address the unique challenges posed by San Francisco's climate, terrain and architectural constraints.

Irrigation Association Certification
Certified Irrigaton Contractor, Certified Irrigation Designer, Certified Landscape Irrigation Auditor, Certified Water Manager

Award winning design
"Outstanding Achievement Award"
California Landscape Contractors Association, 2007 - 2009, 2012 & 2013

415-821-3760 · 1031 Valencia St., San Francisco · jmoyerlandscaping.com

Landscape Contractor License 853919 · Pest Control License 36389

Real Food Company

DEDICATED TO FOOD AUTHENTICITY SINCE 1969

NATURAL FOODS & SUPPLEMENTS
100% ORGANIC PRODUCE
NON-GMO • FRESH • LOCAL

3060 FILLMORE ST 415.567.6900
2140 POLK STREET 415.673.7420
SAN FRANCISCO

REALFOODCO.COM

The Corona can

Relax responsibly.®

Corona Extra® Beer. Imported by Crown Imports, Chicago, IL

has arrived.

Another way to
find your beach

WELLS FARGO

Thank you
SF Weekly readers
for voting Wells Fargo
'Best Bank'*

Together we'll go far

*Readers' poll, (May 2015, *SF Weekly*)
© 2015 Wells Fargo Bank, N.A. All rights reserved. Member FDIC. (1251340_14909)

dresses you'll treasure forever and stuff you might wear to the club once, this Inner Sunset retailer wears its San Francisco pride on its sleeve (or T-shirt, or knee-high, or jewelry) with fun designs stamped with the Sutro Tower and other local favorites. Rather than going to Valencia or Hayes Valley to buy what everyone else is already wearing, get unique stuff by the park for cheap. Low-pressure sales staff only adds to the browse-able atmosphere.

BEST ONLY-IN-S.F. HASHTAG

#NoWrongWaySF

Hashtags? San Francisco *invented* hashtags (after all, Twitter and Instagram are based in the city — come at us, Internet Relay Chat!). The crosshatched handle that's particularly dear to our hearts is #NoWrongWaySF, which Oscar Nilsson launched in 2013 while studying advertising at the Academy of Art. Lick it and stick it onto any wonderfully offbeat San Francisco sight, whether it's a guy in a wheelchair crowd-surfing at Outside Lands or the swaying lady of Treasure Island's *Bliss Dance* sculpture.

BEST PLACE TO BUILD YOUR OWN VAPE PEN

Head Rush

1448 Haight St., 415-817-1823

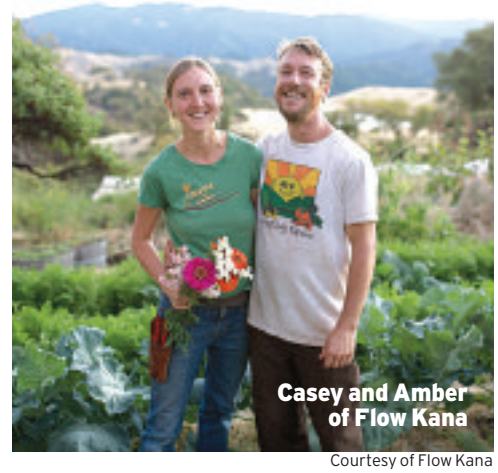
A heat source, something to heat, and a delivery mechanism: The vaporizer is a simple device — and one that can command a steep price, as vaping becomes more and more in vogue with today's healthier cannabis consumer. Avoid paying for marketing gimmicks by going the old-school route and assembling your own. Head Rush has a cornucopia of parts with which to construct your very own custom vaporizer. Atomizers, batteries, and containers for flowers, oils, and other concentrates come in standardized threading, after all, leaving you with nothing more to do than select the parts that work for you and screw them together. In this way, entry into the world of vaporizing can be had for as little as $30. Good for you — and good for your wallet, too.

BEST FARM-TO-TABLE WEED

Flow Kana

888-850-2999, flowkana.com

In these times, your vegetables come from a farmer who sends you a birthday card. You can be on a first-name basis with the cow on your plate. It stands to reason, then, that you could have a relationship with the people who grow your weed. The closest thing to community-sustained marijuana is the setup at Flow Kana. It's a cannabis delivery


Casey and Amber of Flow Kana

Courtesy of Flow Kana

service, but one that provides a direct link to organic marijuana farmers growing heirloom strains. Before (and after) the product is delivered to you in mason jars by bicycle, you can ask questions, find out how the weather is in Mendocino, and meet the farmers at regular tasting events in the city.

BEST MARIJUANA EDIBLE (FOR PEOPLE WHO DON'T LIKE EDIBLES)

Auntie Dolores' glazed pecans and gluten-free pretzels

323-570-4276, auntiedolores.com

The marijuana industry's explosive growth has also brought on an explosive growth in marijuana hangovers. A dab too many or a too-powerful brownie can put you in a confusing fog that only time will lift — and for some reason, makers of edibles are locked in an arms race for who can build the strongest pot bomb. Auntie Dolores is not playing that game. The female-owned and operated edibles makers offer low-dosage treats that don't lead to an automatic and extended fugue state — and they adhere to the idea that a pecan can be medicated and still taste like a pecan. Health nuts will also dig their line of gluten-free and vegan edibles, and everyone will appreciate the ability to perform at work the next day after eating a handful.

BEST MARIJUANA SPEAKEASY

High Society, Presented by The Hepburns

Instagram: @the_hepburn.com

Rubbing elbows and slamming dabs with cannabis royalty used to be a once-in-a-lifetime event, a fortunate happenstance reserved for trips to Amsterdam or the 4/20 jet set. Not in San Francisco. In the few months remaining before outright legalization is in full bloom, mixing with High » p48

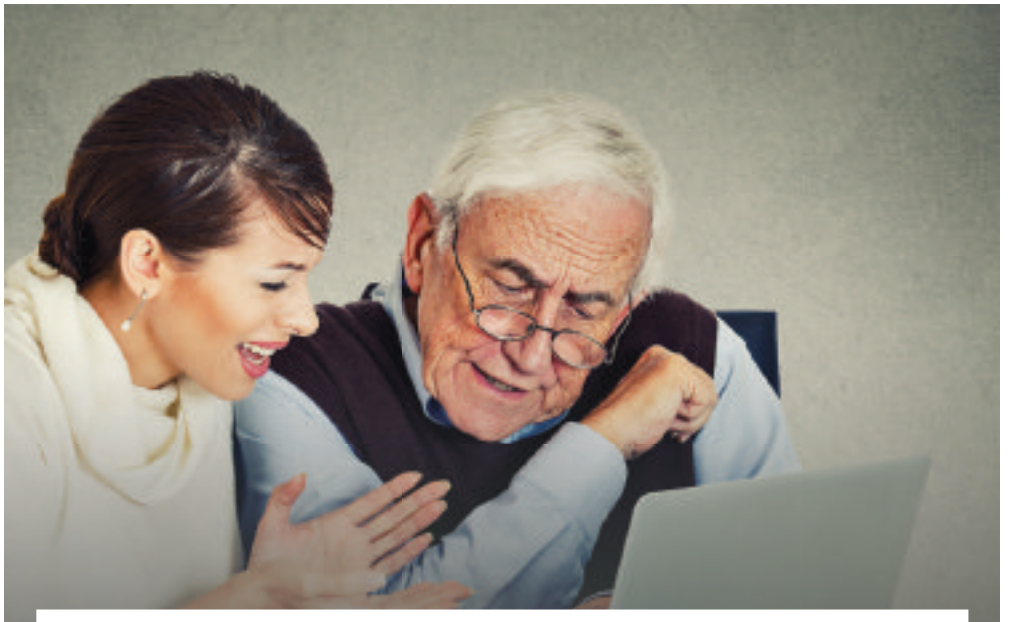
AFFORDABLE BUILDING & PAINTING

Additions • Dry Rot
Stucco Repairs • Driveways
Retaining Walls • Roofing
Fencing Repairs

15% OFF WITH THIS AD THRU JULY 31

(415) 583-1605 • (800) 520-8031
Serving the Bay Area since 1983
RufusRobbins & Sons / GBC Lic # 446619

168 BEACON ST. BLDG B, SOUTH SAN FRANCISCO
M-F: 10AM - 7PM, SAT-SUN: 10AM-8PM. PHONE: (650) 827-3946
WWW.THEGALLERI.COM



Make a difference in the life of an elder adult.
Become an ElderWISE friendly visiting volunteer!
Call Program Director
Vanessa Sacks MSW
415-563-8143
or visit www.jtm-esc.org

Glama-Rama!

Thanks to SF Weekly Readers for voting us Best Hair Salon!

Great Cuts
Creative Colors
Glamorous Updos
Wig Styling
Make-Up
Local Art

SF Weekly Best Of San Francisco Winner 2015

Creating fabulous hair in the Bay Area for 19 years!

Glama-Rama Salon & Gallery
304 Valencia St.
San Francisco, CA 94103
(415) 861-4526

Glama-Rama Salon & Gallery
6399 Telegraph Ave.
Oakland, CA 94609
(510) 655-4526

Glama-Rama Barber Shop
507 Alcatraz Ave.
Oakland, CA 94609
(510) 655-4526

Book online: www.glamarama.com

WATER CONSERVATION WEDNESDAYS

BEGINNING IN MAY, AND CONTINUING UNTIL OUR COMMUNITY RECEIVES SIGNIFICANT RAINFALL, WE WILL BE CLOSED ON WEDNESDAYS.

WE SINCERELY APOLOGIZE FOR ANY INCONVENIENCE THIS MAY CAUSE AND HOPE THAT YOU JOIN US IN CONSERVING THIS PRECIOUS RESOURCE.

DIVISADERO touchless CAR WASH

www.divisaderotouchless.com • (415) 621-8676

Society is on our regular to-do list. Once a month, the women behind The Hepburns — powerful upscale prerolls made with solventless concentrates — assemble the best producers of concentrates, edibles, and high-end flowers at a somewhat-secret South of Market location for a little get-together. The party, advertised via Instagram and word-of-mouth, allows card-carrying medical cannabis patients to interact one-on-one with the industry's finest producers and sample their wares — and go home happy, having enjoyed patient-to-patient pricing for any goodies that strike a fancy.

BEST WAY TO GET LEGAL MARIJUANA WITHOUT LEAVING YOUR HOUSE

Meadow

getmeadow.com

Going legal in today's marijuana industry doesn't require much: a legitimate medical concern (of which there are plenty in today's pill-popping world) and a visit to the doctor. But just in case that was too onerous, Meadow removed the second bit of the equation. The on-demand app and Web-hailed medical cannabis delivery service will also deliver to you an on-demand visit from a California licensed physician. The house call is a legitimate medical marijuana-recommendation evaluation — and more involved than most visits to a storefront recommendation clinic. You'll find out how and why marijuana will help you sleep or ease your pain — and you'll get an idea of what strain to ask for when you place your first order.

BEST PLACE TO DESIGN AND PURCHASE YOUR OWN BACKPACK

MAFIA Bags

1914A Clement St., 415-702-6448
mafiabags.com

MAFIA Bags is the passion project of brother-sister duo Marcos and Paz Mafia; they wanted to share their passion for nature, appreciation for living a simple life, and commitment to making a social impact with others. Founded in 2012 in Buenos Aires, Argentina, MAFIA Bags expanded into the United States and opened its flagship U.S. facility in the Inner Richmond on Clement Street last year. All of its eco-friendly and handmade products are locally produced right here in the city from recycled sails. Customers can choose from a variety designs available and even participate in selecting the textile combinations to create the bag of your dreams. It's time to splurge.

BEST LOCAL JEWELRY SHOP

Jen Leddy

JenLeddy.com

Jen Leddy has the golden touch. She's the owner, goldsmith, and designer of her namesake home studio in San Francisco. After being inspired by the mastery of Italian metalworkers while studying abroad in the early 2000s, Leddy decided to pursue jewelry-making full time in 2014. All of her creations are fabricated using traditional goldsmith techniques from recycled precious metals and garnished with natural, handpicked, conflict-free precious and semi-precious stones. Whether it's for a special occasion or just to add a bit of sparkle to the toils of daily life, if you're going to put a ring on, it better be from the city's brightest jeweler.

BEST PLACE TO GET YOUR (BOARD) GAME ON

Gamescape

333 Divisadero St., 415-621-4263
gamescapesf.com

Mobile gaming is OK, we guess, but some of us would prefer playing and discussing games with real people over memorizing the patterns in Bejeweled 2: Bejewel Harder. Gamescape has been giving us cardboard thrills since 1985, from simple Monopolizing and Kerplunking to ending a Pandemic or trying to build the Castles of Mad King Ludwig. Gamescape also hosts regular game nights for fans of Pokemon, Magic, and more, and don't be bashful, Dungeons and Dragons fans — you can bring in your 20-sided dice at 5 p.m. Wednesdays and 11 a.m. Saturdays.

BEST REGALOS Y DECORACIONES

Casa Bonampak

1051 Valencia St., 888-722-4264
casabonampak.com

As the Mission District increasingly loses touch with its Latino roots — hey, fancypants mixologists, those Day of the Dead drink specials didn't exactly honor the culture — it's nice to know there's still an easy stop for fair-trade Dia de Los Muertos decorations and gorgeous traditional crafts. Casa Bonampak has been serving the Mission for 18 years with an eclectic array of merchandise from kitschy coin purses shaped like concha bread to intricately cut papel picado paper crafts. Its paper banners and flowers, made in Mexico by traditional artisans, have been featured in Brides of Northern California and InStyle magazines — and maybe your next shindig. » p50

ELECTRICAL WORK

Residential • Commercial
Wiring • Telephone
Data • WiFi
Architectural Lighting & Display

Free Estimate

CALL BILL (415) 420-3054
Lic # 328973/Bonded/Insured

In an accident? Need auto body work? Looking for a reliable and honest shop?

LOMBARD AUTOBODY

offers the finest in collision and painting services.

We'll get your car, truck or SUV back in shape and get you back on the road!

SAVE UP TO $500 WITH THIS AD!
(CALL FOR DETAILS)

2340 Lombard St., SF | 415.292.2962 | www.lombardautobodysf.com

Voted Best Personal Trainer in SF Weekly

SF WEEKLY BEST OF SAN FRANCISCO WINNER 2015

Train with the BEST!

PURE FITNESS. NO FADS.

Sebastian's Functional Fitness
Special Introductory Package for New Clients!
www.sebastiangrubb.com (415) 797-7065

Do Involuntary Body Movements Have a Hold on You?

We invite those who are experiencing involuntary movements in their face or other parts of their body - and suffer from schizophrenia, schizoaffective disorder, bipolar disorder, or mood disorder - to see if they may qualify for the Kinect 3 Study.

The purpose of this clinical research study is to evaluate the effectiveness, safety, and tolerability of an investigational oral medication for tardive dyskinesia.

Each individual will be evaluated to determine his or her eligibility. Those who qualify will receive study medication, study-related medical exams, and lab tests at no charge.

Pacific Research Partners
Searching for a Cure Together

877-602-5777
www.pacifictrials.com

CALL US FIRST!

Never an overtime charge.

Mr. Rooter PLUMBING

CITY SPECIAL

DRAIN CLOG SUPER SERVICE!

$50 OFF ANY DRAIN CLEANING & GET A FREE CAMERA LINE INSPECATION

Offer expires 5/31/2015

MAY NOT BE COMBINED WITH OTHER OFFERS
LOCALLY OWNED/INDEPENDENT FRANCHISE

415-980-6008
MrROOTER-SFO.COM
LICENSE #974194 • INSURED

10% OFF WITH THIS AD!

Taking Good Care Of You
RinoSecurity.com

24/7
EMERGENCY
LOCKSMITH

SERVING SAN FRANCISCO

415.751.2087
License # 936690 www.rinosecurity.com

BBB

BEST LOCALLY MADE SF-THEMED T-SHIRTS AND TANKS

Ferry Building Merchant Stalls

One Ferry Building, culk.co

People love repping their city. But the next time you're inclined to pick up a garment inscribed with "San Francisco," better check the label, lest you be stuck with a spurious import made in off-brand circumstances. Keep it real in a real way with the Bay Area and Giants-inspired designs printed on cotton by Culk. Born in a Richmond District garage, where everything is designed and printed, the San Francisco designs are the thought children of local artist Sam Culkins. He also happens to be the same individual manning the register at the merchant stall near the Ferry Building. The design is simple, clean, and fresh — and if you slip on one of these cotton tees, you will be, too.

BEST MAGICAL MYSTERY STORE

Misdirections Magic Shop

1236 Ninth Ave., 415-566-2180
misdirections.com

Want some card tricks? They got card tricks. Want a magic carpet illusion? They got a magic carpet illusion (swords included!). And yes, they have rubber chickens, arrow-through-the-head gags, and chattering teeth, too. Besides props, the family-operated Misdirections Magic Shop is the best place to find books or DVDs on magic basics (even for kids) or learn from pros with lectures by established magicians. We could all use a little magic in our lives, and why not start in the Inner Sunset?

GREAT BOTTLE SHOPS FOR RARE BOOZE

BY BRAD JAPHE

Even the least observant among us would find it difficult to ignore the meteoric ascent of craft spirits in our modern era. Every week, it seems, a new product hits the shelves of local liquor stores, promising a reserve of "small-batch," "handcrafted" artistry within its alluringly-sculpted glass exterior. Yet there's a finite amount of space on those shelves. As with anything else, a good outpost for alcohol is marked more by quality than quantity. In an impossibly crowded field of competitors, here are San Francisco's finest.

Celebrating its 50th year in Nob Hill, **The Jug Shop** (1590 Pacific Ave., 415-885-2922) predates the craft boon by several decades. Lining the spacious aisles with everything from rare, imported Japanese rice wines, to Polynesian-inspired rum from farmlands of the central California coast, its inventory is lengthy enough to include over a 100 whiskeys from Kentucky to Tokyo. And the Jug Shop's knowledgeable staff is an invaluable asset. You probably don't know the difference between a carboxylic ester and an ethyl acetate. But staffers do, and it will make all the difference in matching your palate to a lesser-known spirit.

Cask (17 Third St., 415-500-2276, and 101 Spear St., 415-500-2276) offers an exhaustive array of bottles that are difficult to find elsewhere. But to solidify its standing as a mecca for mixology, it zeros in on whisk(e)y with an almost unnerving acumen. Library-like stacks of brown spirits cover the walls of the Third Street location, its top level requiring a rolling ladder to access. Here you'll find the award-winning whiskeys of Asia alongside a collection of Scotch that demands regional categorization. If you are unfamiliar with, say, the differences between a Highland and an Islay (peat!), head here for a crash course. If you already know the difference, then you're likely already a big fan of this stately shop.

Great booze is worth a great deal of travel. Connoisseurs comb the globe in search of fine spirits. Here in San Francisco, you'll be amply rewarded for making your way to West Portal to peruse the shelves at the **San Francisco Wine Trading Company** (250 Taraval St., 415-731-6222). Don't let the name mislead you; SFWTC houses a heady list of artisanal spirits from near and far. In this refreshingly unpretentious environment, $17 bottles of (delicious) rye are as comfortable as $160 bottles of rare añejo tequila. Leave the passport at home, and satisfy your worldly wonder one bottle of booze at a time.

THANK YOU
TO OUR LOYAL CUSTOMERS
FOR VOTING AMBIANCE
THE BEST
WOMEN'S CLOTHING STORE
2015
AMBIANCE
Haight Ashbury 1458 Haight St. ♥ Noe Valley 3979 24th St.
Marina District 1858 & 1864 Union St. ♥ Inner Sunset 756 Irving St.
AmbianceSF ♥ www.AmbianceSF.com

FULL TIME POSITIONS

WE ARE HIRING

NO EXPERIENCE REQUIRED

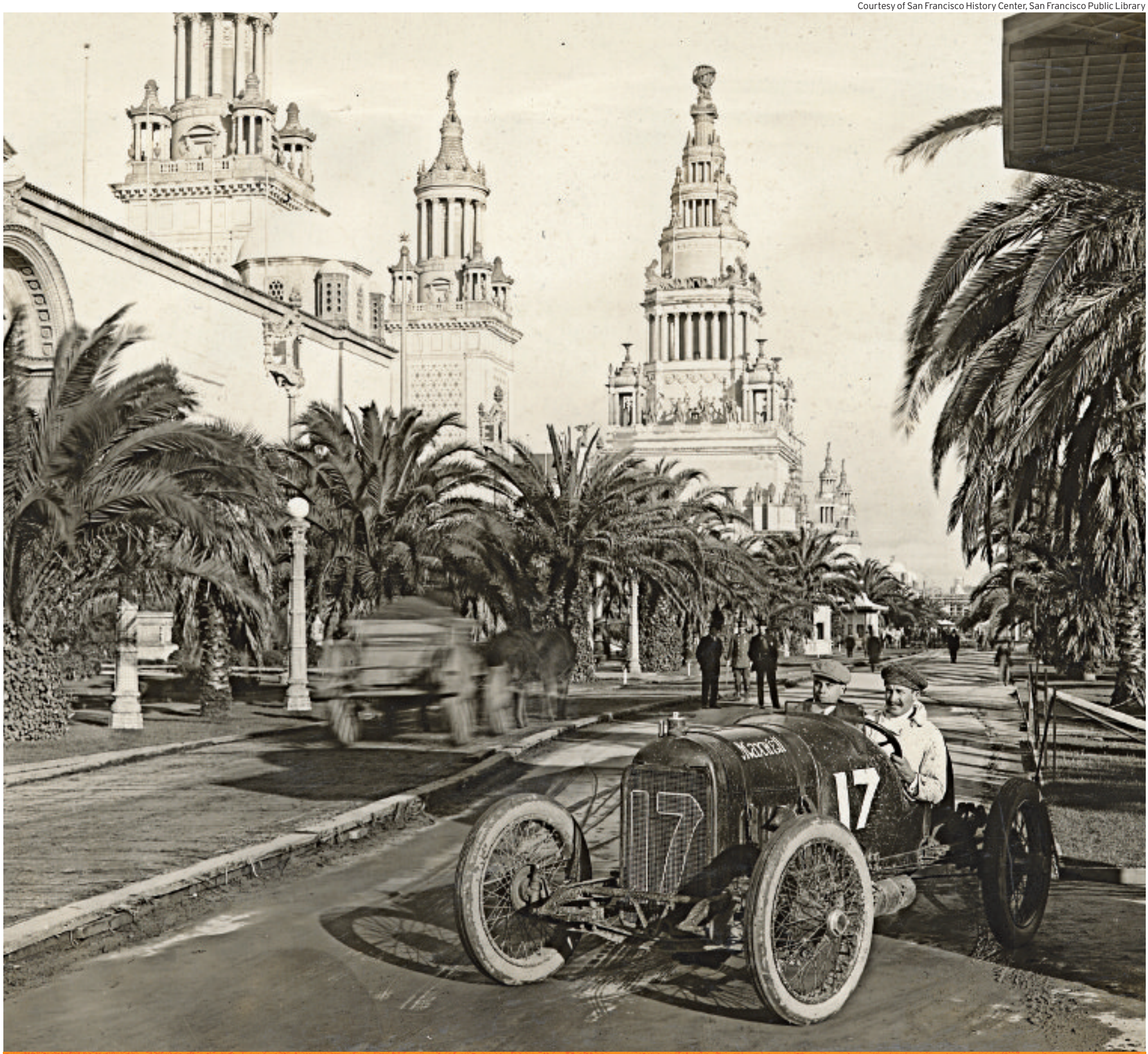
We Provide Full Training for Accepted Applicants

Looking for Individuals who can start ASAP

Health Benefits, Hourly Pay + Commission and Bonuses

CALL 415-645-6475

Courtesy of San Francisco History Center, San Francisco Public Library



SPORTS & RECREATION

Medical Care and Vision Care

+ Free Taxi Rides
to your medical appointments

Learn More: **1-888-252-3153**
To talk to a licensed sales representative.

www.hpsm.org/careadvantage

CareAdvantage Cal MediConnect (Medicare-Medicaid Plan) is available to San Mateo County residents who have both Medicare Parts A & B and full-scope Medi-Cal. CareAdvantage Cal MediConnect Plan (Medicare-Medicaid Plan) is a health plan that contracts with both Medicare and Medi-Cal to provide benefits of both programs to enrollees. People with End-stage Renal Disease (ESRD) are eligible to apply.

Up to 30 one-way taxi rides are available to members for approved medical appointments. Limitations, co-pays, and restrictions may apply. For more information, call the CareAdvantage Unit or read the CareAdvantage CMC Member Handbook. Benefits, List of Covered Drugs, pharmacy and provider networks, or co-payments may change on January 1 of each year.

H7885_MMP_15123_004_15_EN Accepted

HealthPlan OF SAN MATEO

The 1915 world's fair offered lots of history, art, and new tech to see inside its magnificent buildings and pavilions, but there was plenty to do outside of those bastions of culture. In the sunlight, the fair was a sports-and-rec wonderland: horses, auto racing, Japanese wrestling, parades of all kinds. "One of the great charms of the Panama-Pacific International Exposition was that it combined all the blandishments of a county fair with the rising sophistication of the young 20th century," proclaimed a 1962 documentary on the Pan-Pacific Expo called *The Innocent Fair*.

We lost our innocence long ago, but San Francisco remains a sports-and-rec wonderland. Whether skateboarding in a park, bicyling up the city's steep hills, or swimming in the icy bay, you can't be bored outdoors.

READERS POLL WINNERS

BEST ALTERNATIVE EXERCISE
WILD SF TOURS

BEST BIKE PATH
THE WIGGLE

BEST BOOKSTORE
GREEN APPLE

BEST BOOT CAMP
BARRY'S

BEST BOWLING ALLEY
MISSION BOWL

BEST CROSSFIT GYM
CROSSFIT ALINEA

BEST GOLF COURSE
PRESIDIO

BEST GYM
EQUINOX

BEST HIKE
LANDS END

BEST INDOOR CLIMBING GYM
MISSION CLIFFS

BEST PARK
GOLDEN GATE

BEST POOL TABLE
LUCKY 13

BEST SPORTING GOODS STORE
SPORTS BASEMENT

BEST TEAM
GIANTS

BEST YOGA STUDIO
YOGA TREE

BEST BIKE KICKSTARTER / INVENTION
Bitlock
Bitlock.co

A bevy of smart locks — Nokē, Bitlock, Skylock, Lock8, and if you can come up with another lock pun it probably exists — are trying to change the way you outsmart bike crooks. Well, after reviweing them all, we think Bitlock wins this one, because it has a built-in bikeshare system and the earliest ship date (late April 2015). All of these locks will include Bluetooth capability, GPS tracking, remote unlocking/locking, and alarms. These functions let you do some pretty neat things, like lock/unlock your bike from afar if somebody wants to borrow it. The problem is that they simply can't offer more in the way of security than a good hardened steel u-lock. We don't believe that an alarm is going to put off a battery-powered angle grinder-wielding bike thief. Having said that, we do think that these smart locks could change the way we think about locking up our bikes.

BEST BIKE RIDE
Mount Tam
3801 Panoramic Highway, Mill Valley
415-388-2070

MountTam is not only one of the best rides in the Bay Area, it's one of the best rides anywhere. Whether you stick to the road or take in the rocky fire roads to get up to the top, few rides provide such a breathtaking array of different microclimates and epic views. From misty redwood groves and forests of California Bay trees, to the rocky, wind-whipped peaks, to the high chaparral and meadows, it's a diverse sampling of Coastal Range flora. On a clear day it's easy to see the city, out to the Farallon Islands, the East Bay, Mount Diablo, and pretty much everything else. Plus, since Mount Tam is right in our backyard it's easy to stretch it out to 70 or 80 miles for a full long day in the saddle. Or you could sprint up and back down again in a couple hours if you have places to be.

BEST NEW BIKE LEGISLATION
The Three Feet for Safety Act
calbike.org/advocacy/giveme3/

True, the law, which says drivers must be at least three feet away from cyclists when passing them is kinda impossible to enforce. Not to mention, it probably hasn't altered people's crappy driving habits — cyclists are still getting hit by cars. But here's the thing: The law makes it much easier to legally hold drivers accountable when they do hit cyclists — intentionally or not. Before this law went into effect last year, a driver charged with manslaughter or reckless driving would likely never be prosecuted or fined. Not anymore. If you hit a cyclist you're going to shell out, at the very least, $220-plus court fee. And that makes us happy.

BEST NEW BIKE LANE
Polk Street Bike Lane
Polk St.

This is the most hyped bike lane installed anywhere in San Francisco last year. Billed by the San Francisco Bike Coalition as "the North-South route in San Francisco for people on bikes," Polk Street has been notoriously dangerous for cyclists. The broad green "contra-flow" protected cycle track now runs from Market to Grove Street, but that's far from the extent of the Polk Street improvements. The SFMTA recently announced upgrades that include bike signals at Geary Boulevard, Ellis, Eddy, and Turk streets, and will have metered lights so there are fewer right-hook crashes, where a driver turns right without looking for bikes going straight. This configuration is rare in San Francisco, and the protected Cargo Way bike lane in Bayview is the only place you'll find it.

BEST WORST BIKE PROJECT
Bay Area Bike Share
bayareabikeshare.com

What's the best way to patch up the public transportation in the Bay Area so that it appears stunted, short-term, silly, and sometimes down-right stupid when compared to major public transit infrastructures in the world? Install a limited, silly, and short-reaching bike share program that pales in comparison to other bike share systems in New York, Europe, China, and beyond. We like bike share programs, but really, why would you put the stations near all the places where there is already public transportation? The point of the bike share system is to give those far-flung communities another option besides driving. It's not supposed to give another option for the gratuitously overserved neighborhoods that already have a bunch of transit options. Hopefully, the program's plan to another 6,000 bikes across the region will make the Bay Area Bike Share System a more useable commuting tool by 2017.

AP Photo/Danny Moloshok

BEST GIANT

Madison Bumgarner
24 Willie Mays Plaza, 415-972-2000
SFGiants.com

In the easiest assignment of this edition, Madison Bumgarner, folk hero, is this year's Best Giant. The left-handed starter, who boasts an origin story befitting Davy Crockett, pitched San Francisco to last year's World Series title as single-handedly as any man can accomplish anything single-handedly in the game of baseball. His postseason performance equaled — and exceeded — those of the game's long-dead aces of the deadball era and his five-inning save in Game 7 pushed him into hallowed territory heretofore only inhabited by Sandy Koufax. And he's just 25.

BEST GIANTS MURAL

Vamos Gigantes!
3449 19th St.

If you only see one Giants mural in your lifetime, this is the one — a towering spectacle on the upper reaches of a PG&E substation that was painted by Mission District artists associated with Precita Eyes Muralists. The mural, which went up in 2007, beautifully depicts the baseball team's history, with all the stadiums and all the key figures, including Orlando Cepeda, Willie Mays, Willie McCovey, Gaylord Perry, and the Alou brothers. "Vamos Gigantes" means "Go Giants" in Spanish. Like the team itself when it plays at a high level, this mural is inspiring to witness firsthand.

BEST 49ER

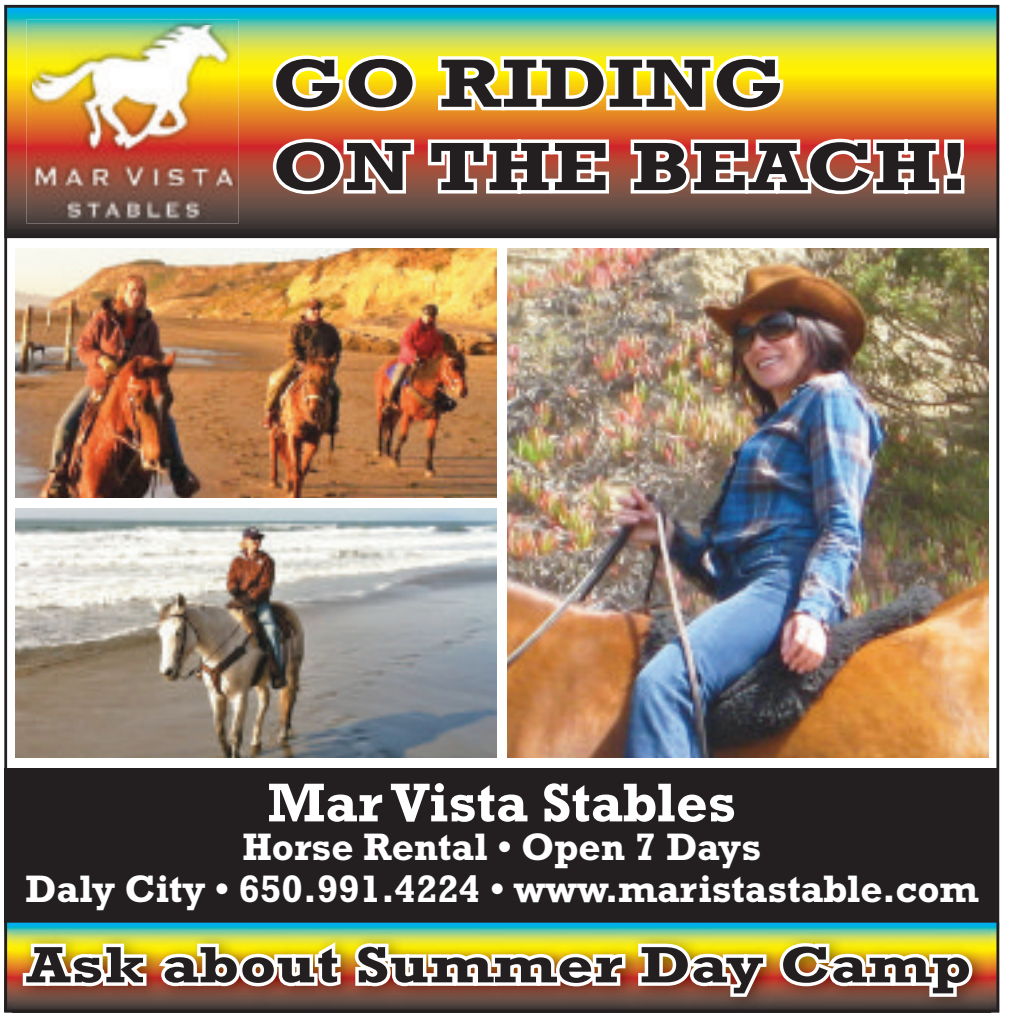
Nobody
5201 Great America Parkway, Santa Clara. 415-GO-49ERS
49ers.com

An invading army didn't march through the 49ers' triumphal arch but, in the past year, just about every other misfortune has befallen this team. But the Niners weren't unlucky. Far from it. This was self-inflicted. The team left San Francisco, meaning it now spends seven days a week in the South Bay as opposed to the previous six. It moved into a cavernous, charm-free stadium and charged fans war profiteer prices. Owner and Dave Franco look-alike Jed York dispatched coach Jim Harbaugh and players continued to rack up arrests — particularly for domestic violence — at rates befitting an outlaw biker gang.This year's Best 49er is nobody.

BEST PLACE TO FLY OFF A CLIFF

Mussel Rock (The Dumps)
Westline Drive, Pacifica

If you're an experienced paraglider looking for a launch site, follow your nose to the Pacifica dumps. Mussel Rock has five launch zones, and on a clear day provides a beautiful view of the ocean and greater Bay Area. But much like the » p56



AP Photo/Marcio Jose Sanchez

BEST WARRIOR

Stephen Curry

1011 Broadway, Oakland
510-986-2200
nba.com/warriors

In 1977, the Portland Trailblazers won 50 of their first 60 games. Then Bill Walton's feet stopped working and so did that franchise. Golden State Warriors fans pray a bit each day that Steph Curry's ankles don't become the present-day iteration of Walton's feet. So long as Curry stays healthy, however, he's the best player on the league's best team — a team so good it borders on transcendence. The Warriors' long-suffering Oakland fanbase, among the most loyal and devoted in all sports, is being treated to a legendary run of success prior to being shafted for an imminent crossbay move. It seems karmic. Hopefully karma extends to Curry's well-being as well.

dichotomy of a breathtaking beach next to a stomach-churning garbage dump, this site has as many hazards as it does benefits. A few people have drowned in the ocean, and even more have been blown back into the cliff's power lines. So before you jump, make sure you know what you're doing and talk to a couple locals to get a better understanding of how to avoid being zapped. Oh, and make sure to bring your trash somewhere else — the actual garbage dump is a total rip-off.

BEST PLACE TO SKATEBOARD, STILL

Potrero Del Sol Skate Park

1440 San Bruno Ave.
sfrecpark.org/destination/portrero-del-sol

With the additions of Balboa Skate Park in 2012 and the SoMa West Skate Park last year, Potrero del Sol Skate Park, aka La Raza, is still king of the San Francisco skate scene. To put it simply, it's bigger — and better. The park features an intimidating bowl with 4- to 10-foot walls, a street flow area with railed step-ups, flat bars and more. So brave on. It's time to ditch your "vintage" PSOne collection of Tony Hawk's Pro Skater and hit some real rails, bruh. Oh, and if you wipe out, don't worry — S.F. General Hospital is right up the street.

BEST PLACE TO REENACT SCENES FROM "FURIOUS 7" INDOORS

K1 Speed

160 Beacon St., South San Francisco, 650-741-0215, k1speed.com

You might not be parachuting these karts out of airplanes onto treacherous mountaintop highways, but it sure is fun to pretend you're on a high-speed heist when whipping through hairpin turns at the indoor track at K1 Speed. The venue offers 14-lap single races ($20), bundle deals, including an eight-race package ($100), private parties, and more. The electric karts can approach 45 miles per hour, but with up to 12 racers at a time, you're lucky if you have the skills to hit 30. Either way, drive fast, but leave the death-defying stunts for the stars on the screen.

BEST PLACE TO PLAY FRISBEE (BECAUSE FRISBEE IS STILL COOL, RIGHT?)

Golden Gate Park Disc Golf Course

99 Marx Meadow Drive, Golden Gate Park, sfdiscgolf.org

Whether you're an avid disc golfer or casual Frisbee tosser, the easy access to the Golden Gate Park Disc Golf Course presents a good-clean-fun outdoor experience for everyone. Nestled comfortably among the trees of Marx Meadow, the course serves up 18 holes across nearly 6,000 feet of land. Launch your Frisbee through the open space, or hook it through tree trunks to build masterful technique. If you're feeling lucky, test your skills in the Tuesday and Thursday doubles tournaments, or step up for Sunday singles for a chance to win the pot; buy-ins are $5 a player.

BEST PLACE TO GET SCARED OUT OF YOUR PANTS

Seward Mini Park

70 Corwin St., San Francisco
415-831-6809
sfrecpark.org/destination/seward-mini-park

The best things in life really are free and this slide-from-hell proves that. This ride is one of the biggest (legal) rushes in the Bay Area. Located in a nondescript neighborhood in between foliage, houses, and apartments, your GPS may have trouble finding this harrowing slide, but that only adds to the adventure. Bring a big piece of cardboard or a plastic dinner tray to ride and some thick pants and a long-sleeved shirt to wear. You will bail the first time so be prepared and don't let your kids try unless they're dressed the same. Race your buddy since there are two slides but keep your arms and feet tucked in if you like them the way they are.

BEST CAMP TO SEND YOUR LITTLE MONSTERS

Creepshow Camp

575 10th St., 415-377-4202
creepshowcamp.com

Finally, young aficionados of horror, sci-fi, and suspense films have a summer camp (hopefully unlike camp Crystal Lake) to call their own! Camp attendees learn about monster makeup, special effects, sleight of hand, and stage combat through various hands-on, artist-led workshops. The kids (aged 8-15) enjoy screenings of classic horror movies and prepare a performance given onstage for family and friends at the end of every two-week session.

BEST INDOOR MINIATURE GOLF COURSE

Urban Putt

1096 S. Van Ness Ave., 415-341-1080
urbanputt.com

Stop trying to sneak liquor onto miniature golf courses designed for children's birthday parties — grow up and go to Urban Putt. The hi-tech 14-hole indoor miniature golf course, restaurant, and bar is in the heart of the Mission District. The course replicates earthquakes, roulette, and an Archimedes' screw, giving your balls a ride they'll never forget. Anyone under 21 years old gets kicked off the course at 8 p.m. so the rest of us can drink up while arguing with our friends about whether or not they have to count that as a stroke (pro tip: You do. Stop cheating).

BEST PLACE TO MAKE OUT IN YOUR CAR OR ON THE GRASS

Marina Green Park

Marina District, San Francisco
sfrecpark.org/reservablefacility/marina-green

Everybody has searched for the perfect place to make out at one time or another. From dimly-lit parking lots to abandoned, dead-end roads, it's safe to say that every nook and cranny of San Francisco has been explored. In the heart of the Marina District lies Marina Green Park which offers some of the most wonderful views of the night sky and reflecting ocean. On a clear night, you can see the lights of Sausalito and its neighboring cities. More importantly, however, this is the perfect place to bring your date and get that first kiss, or bring your partner for a bit more advanced action.

BEST SACRED ROLLERBLADING RINK

The Church of 8 Wheels

554 Fillmore St. @ Fell, 415-752-1967
churchof8wheels.com

If you've ever wanted to rollerblade around pretending to be on one of those roller derby TV shows from the '90s, here's your chance. God's house has opened the doors to the rollerblading masses. San Francisco's only church-turned-roller rink is open four nights a week (every Tuesday is gay night, Saturday is Disco). DJ D. Miles, aka The Godfather of Skating, the Hardest Working Man in Rollerblading, and the Mayor of Golden Gate Park, plays some of the best damn funk and disco rollerblading music we've ever heard. This roller rink is a true San Francisco gem.

BEST PLACE TO GET YOUR YA YA'S OUT

House Of Air

926 Mason St., 415-345-9675
houseofair.com

We're not talking about anything sexual here so erase your dirty thoughts now. House Of Air is a respite from the mundane 9-5 world where you can take your aggression out on a bouncy substance of your choosing. Located in the city's Presidio district,

it has everything from trampoline dodgeball to fitness classes, physical to aerial training courses. If you can't have fun here you need more help than this place can offer. Plan ahead since this places often sells out two-three weeks in advance and it also caters to large-scale parties, company events, and more. For only $18 you will gain entrance to the Matrix (the main trampoline area) and the Colosseum (the trampoline dodgeball court) as well.

BEST PLACE TO SHOOT AN ARROW

Golden Gate Park Archery Range

902 47th Ave., 415-496-5269

There's nothing quite like hitting a bull's-eye from 20 yards away with a medieval-looking longbow. And when it comes to San Francisco, there's only one place in the city to let arrows fly — Golden Gate Park. Nestled in the northern part of the park, on Fulton Street, north of the golf course, the archery range is free use (provided you bring your own equipment). If you aren't an avid hunter or medieval soldier and don't carry all your archery equipment slung over your back at all times, no worries, the nearby San Francisco Archery Shop offers complete rental packages.

BEST PLACE TO LEARN MUAY THAI FROM A LIVING LEGEND

El Niño Training Center

2920 Third St., 415-550-6689

elninomma.com

It's known simply as "The Elbow Fight." Two Muay Thai legends, at the top of their games and during a golden era for the sport, whale on each other for 12 rounds — using mostly their elbows. Pray you never need to learn how to withstand a barrage of crushing close-range blows. But you can learn from the man who did. Legendary fighter Jongsanan Fairtex, one of the two combatants in the elbow fight, is Muay Thai royalty. And "The Woodenman" — the nickname Fairtex earned for withstanding such punishment — is one of the trainers at El Niño Training Center. Beginners as well as contenders are invited to try a drop-in class at the Third Street gym, which takes its name from the owner: Gilbert "El Nino" Melendez, a Strikeforce champ and current UFC contender.

Gilbert Melendez (right) and Jongsanan Fairtex, 2006.

AP Photo/Jeff Chiu

BEST PLACE TO TAKE AIM AND DART

Darts Central

5 Plymouth Ave., 415-334-9817

dartscentral.com

Ready, set, dart. While Jennifer Lawrence and her girl-on-fire character have made archery the newest sporting trend on the silver screen, darts and target boards are a staple in every television bar scene. They're a timeless tradition that Don Campos is keeping alive in San Francisco. This venue is in the Ingleside neighborhood under I-280 and is filled with dartboards and their respective memorabilia galore. Darts Central is the last shop in the Bay Area to sell only dart supplies, and whether one visits to shoot a few rounds or just purchase a new board for home usage, Campos is readily available to offer his expertise on the subject matter. To borrow from the game's lingo, Darts Central should very much be at the center of any recreational sports enthusiast's attention.

BEST PLACE TO SWIM LIKE A FISH BUT FEEL LIKE AN IRONMAN

The Dolphin Club

502 Jefferson St., 415-441-9329

Dolphinclub.com

What began as a group swim session around Fisherman's Wharf in 1877 has turned to into a hardcore recreational challenge suited only for the strongest men and women of the City by the Bay. Every day, rain or shine, approximately 200 members willing to brave the chilly waters in nothing more than a Speedo and a swim cap swim around the bay for hours on end. And the members don't even swim for athletic training, but simply for fun. The vast majority are past their mid-40s and prove that they can bring sexy back — one back stroke at a time.

HIT FIT SF
HIGH INTENSITY TRAINING
SF'S HOTTEST NEW GYM IN THE HEART OF THE MISSION
CARDIO BOXING • TRX • CIRCUIT TRAINING • WEIGHTS • ROWERS • BIKES!
GET $100 TOWARDS YOUR MEMBERSHIP! (6-12 MONTHS AGREEMENT ONLY)
WITH MENTION OF THIS AD
FIRST CLASS FREE
WE DON'T USE MACHINES... WE BUILD THEM!
2345 HARRISON AT 20TH • 415.757.0577 • HITFITSF.COM

Courtesy of San Francisco History Center, San Francisco Public Library

FOOD & DINING

SF WEEKLY

BEST OF SAN FRANCISCO

Benefitting OTHER MINDS

Sponsored by PYRAMID BREWERIES

RÉMY MARTIN

TONIGHT

6PM TO 9PM at PUBLICWORKS

If you didn't eat while you were running around the world's fair in 1915, it was your own damn fault. The Palace of Agriculture and Palace of Food Products, in particular, were like massive versions of a county fair, with loads of farm products and awards for the best bounty. The Orchard City Canning Company of Campbell, won one for its Assorted Canned Fruits. (We'd have preferred fresh.)

Appreciation of organic veggies and fine cuisines from around the world wasn't what it is today, so from Asian to Latin American flavors, or from vegan to paleo, today's San Francisco offers much better dining choices on any given day.

BEST NEW COFFEE ROASTERS
Andytown

3655 Lawton St., 415-753-9775, andytownsf.com

The combination of educated coffee and homey Irish food has been drawing people to an unlikely corner of the Outer Sunset for Andytown, named after a neighborhood in Belfast, Northern Ireland where one of the owners was raised. Andytown roasts its beans on a Probat that stands in full view, while the espressos, macchiatos, and a cold, cream-topped espresso soda known as the Snowy Plover are made with an Idrocompresso machine that previously belonged to Blue Bottle. Here, your caffeine fix can be uniquely paired with sausage rolls, scones, soups, or two kinds of Irish soda bread, a wheaten loaf and a griddle-baked white, that come from McCrory's grandmother's recipes.

BEST EDIBLE IMPORT FROM OAKLAND
Hawker Fare

680 Valencia Street St., 415-400-5699 hawkerfare.com

James Syhabout's original Hawker Fare restaurant in Oakland is a small and humble space that turns out big room food. It was once the site of his mother's Thai restaurant, and now he's got a cavernous new showcase for his cooking on Valencia. The multilevel space could easily swallow any concept up, but Syhabout rose to the challenge with a colorful Thai teen idol decor that instantly transports you from the well-heeled grime outside. Even more so than the OG spot, this latest Hawker Fare provides an upfront side of the cuisine never seen in the glut of pad Thai forward cheap eats restaurants that dominate the city. » p62

READERS POLL WINNERS

BEST BAKERY
TARTINE

BEST BREAKFAST
PLOW

BEST BRUNCH
FOREIGN CINEMA

BEST BURGER
BURGERMEISTER

BEST BURRITO
PAPALOTE

BEST BUSINESS LUNCH
LUNCHPAD

BEST CHEAP EATS
YAMO

BEST CHINESE
MISSION CHINESE

BEST CITY VIEW FROM A RESTAURANT
TOP OF THE MARK

BEST COFFEE
PHILZ

BEST DATE RESTAURANT
LE COLONIAL

BEST DELI
LEE'S

BEST DELIVERY SERVICE
WAITERS ON WHEELS

BEST DOG FRIENDLY RESTAURANT
ATLAS CAFÉ

BEST DOUGHNUTS
BOB'S

BEST FOOD TRUCK
SEÑOR SISIG

BEST FRENCH RESTAURANT (TIE)
LA FOLIE, GASPAR BRASSERIE

BEST IMMUNITY SHOT
JUICE SHOP

BEST JUICE SHOP
JUICE SHOP

BEST LATE NITE BITE
NOPA

BEST MEXICAN
NOPALITO

BEST NEW RESTAURANT
MOURAD

BEST PIZZA
DELFINA

BEST RESTAURANT FOR KIDS
LUNCHPAD

BEST SANDWICH
IKE'S

BEST SEAFOOD
FARALLON

BEST STEAKHOUSE
ALFRED'S STEAKHOUSE

BEST SUSHI
BLOWFISH

BEST TACOS
NICK'S CRISPY TACOS

BEST VEGAN RESTAURANT
GRACIAS MADRE

BEST VEGETARIAN RESTAURANT
GREEN'S

BEST VIETNAMESE RESTAURANT
SUNFLOWER

BEST WINGS
WING WINGS

Cal-Mart

"A SHOPPING EXPERIENCE LIKE NO OTHER"

3585 California Street, San Francisco • 415.751.3516

in the Laurel Village shopping center

- Full Service Delicatessen
- Sweet Things Bakery
- Antonelli's Meat, Fish & Poultry
- Produce Delivered Six Days A Week

Family owned and operated since 1952

Deli: 415.751.6453
Antonelli's Meat: 415.752.7413
Sweet Things Bakery: 415.221.8583

GILBERTH'S
rotisserie & grill
Best Lamb Chorizo Burger in Town!
2427 3rd St, SF
415-913-7163
Monday–Saturday
8am–3pm* & 5:30pm–10pm
*Excluding Saturday, when we are closed for lunch. Service begins at 5:30pm on Saturday
www.gilberths.com

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner & Cocktails All Day
2765 Hyde Street (At Beach) • 415.474.5044
thebuenavista.com

The pig's head at Cockscomb

Mike Koomin

BEST PLACE TO EAT A HEAD
Cockscomb
564 Fourth St., 415-974-0700
cockscombsf.com

Chef Chris Cosentino, winner of Bravo's *Top Chef Masters* in 2012, has a reputation for not wasting anything. At his now-shuttered Incanto, he became San Francisco's de facto king of offal for his creative preparations of everything from brains to balls. Cockscomb, his latest endeavor, is more accessible for squeamish eaters, although one of the most popular items is a shared supper of a wood-oven-roasted pig's head. Dressed simply, with chicories, capers, parsley and lemon, its snout is nonetheless gilded with elegant gold leaf. However jarring it is to see tables full of severed animal heads, the shock fades a little with each tender/crispy bite.

SMARTEST NEW RESTAURANT CONCEPT
AL's Place
1499 Valencia St., 415-416-6136
alsplacesf.com

While many restaurants seemingly do their part to hasten your death with inappropriately gargantuan portions of meat and hardly any vegetables, the new AL's Place in the Mission offers a simple concept that might just extend your life expectancy. Chef/owner Aaron London first made his mark in Napa's now-defunct Ubuntu, where he earned a Michelin star for his refined work. He hasn't taken the strict plant-only ethos of Ubuntu to his own intimate, 45-seat Mission restaurant, but he has definitely made local and exotic produce a central focus, with carnivorous options cleverly served on the side. The only problem? The sides are so good, you'll be tempted to order double portions.

COOLEST NEW PASTRY MASH-UP
California Croissant at Mr. Holmes Bakehouse
1042 Larkin St., 415-829-7700
mrholmesbakehouse.com

So coveted are the secrets of this trendy Tendernob bakery that a recent break-in found a thief or thieves stealing chef and partner Ry Stephen's recipe book instead of cash from the register. Mr. Holmes' cruffin, a croissant/muffin combo, might be the most popular, but the California Croissant is a true original, a salmon sushi roll with pickled ginger and wasabi inside a flaky pastry that's topped with sesame seeds and served with a packet of soy sauce. Why didn't someone think of this before? It's a home of hybrids, this Bakehouse — and with its neon "I Got Baked in San Francisco" sign, it's also a magnet for social media addicts.

BEST NEW VEGAN SPOT
Shizen
370 14th St., 415-678-5767

San Francisco may have recently lost Millennium, that long-standing temple of composed, high-end vegan food, but interest in cruelty-free cooking has only continued to grow. The owners of Tataki Sustainable Sushi and Sake Bar made a surprise move by opening this beautiful, wood-accented vegan izakaya and sushi bar. Here, you'll find such unusual items as okra nigiri dressed with » p64

Alfred's STEAKHOUSE

THANK YOU SAN FRANCISCO FOR VOTING FOR US!

OPEN 7 NIGHTS A WEEK

HAPPY HOUR

5:00-7:00PM • MONDAY-FRIDAY

FREE APPETIZER

WITH PURCHASE OF 2 DRINKS

COMPLIMENTARY PARKING FOR CUSTOMERS

ALFREDSSTEAKHOUSE.COM • 415.781.7058 • 659 MERCHANT ST

475 PINE ST
★★★★★
LAFUSION-SF.COM

La fusión nuevo latino kitchen

S.F.
★★★★★
415.781.0894

sake or the Colonel's Pipe, a roll filled with cashews, cream cheese, avocado, sweet mustard, and orange zest. Most impressively though, Shizen has mastered the seemingly impossible art of crafting a delicious, animal-free ramen — no small feat. The Mission is woefully short on moments of Zen, but Shizen comes close to achieving it with a minimum of pretension.

BEST BOBA DRINK (NON-ALCOHOLIC)

Boba Guys

3491 19th St., 415-967-2622, bobaguys.com

This tapioca drink specialist with locations in the Mission and in Union Square is upfront about charging 20-30 percent more than fast food titan Quickly. But that's because these guys make their own syrups, and use premium tea and organic Straus milk instead of that dreaded Coffee Mate powder. And the chewy boba are quite possibly the most tender in the city. If you don't eat Boba Guys' sundaes too fast, they'll turn into a bit of a milkshake by the time you get to the bottom, which you want to happen. Hard as it is to find caffeine-free boba drinks, there is horchata here, a clever option worth seeking out.

BEST NEW FOOD COURT

The Market on Market

1355 Market St., 415-767-5130
visitthemarket.com

Food halls are suddenly all the rage in San Francisco. The Twitter building's luxe new entry, The Market on Market, offers a carefully curated selection of food products from local artisanal businesses, plus several options to eat breakfast, lunch and dinner in-house. Two restaurants are worthy of being destinations themselves: the permanent home of Azalina's Malaysian, a caterer who has built a strong reputation at Off The Grid, and the unimaginatively named but solid Sushi Bar, which serves Tokyo-style sushi and sashimi. For dessert, Nuubia provides creative coffee and caramel drinks, plus ice cream, macarons and chocolate. With plans to open similar outposts throughout the city, this isn't the last we've heard of this model.

BEST POP-UP TO PERMANENT RESTAURANTS

BY TAMARA PALMER

After 20 years spent perfecting the art and science of pizza, including almost five years selling below the legal radar on the streets with the help of a modified Weber grill that cooked dough at up to 1,000 degrees, Jeff Krupman of **PizzaHacker** (3299 Mission St., 415-874-5585) opened his first brick and mortar restaurant in Bernal Heights in February 2014. His pizzas are made with dough that's based on Tartine's bread recipe, and tomato sauces that are painstakingly made from scratch using local and Italian tomatoes — and they'll stand up to the best pies in the city. The space is buzzing but easygoing and relaxed at the same time. An abundance of families and couples huddle over the long picnic tables, sharing pies, a retention of the communal aspect of sharing Krupman cultivated on the pavement for all of those years. One of the standout pizzas is the Rocket Man, with arugula, garlic, lemon juice, chili paste and a lovely farm egg centerpiece. The pie is cut so that the piece with the egg is a large square and other corners and pieces are easy to detach and dip in the egg for extra richness.

San Francisco's pop-up scene has taken on every price and style imaginable, and at the high end was **Lazy Bear** (3416 19th St., 415-874-9921), which has made the transition from a pop-up in 2009 into refined permanent restaurant in 2014. It's been perpetually packed since opening in September, rivaling only State Bird Provisions as the hot, typically un-procure-able ticket in town. By using a ticketing system that sells two seatings a night, Lazy Bear leads people to feel like they've scored a Powerball lottery if they manage to get one. Persistence is worth it in this case, as once inside, minds are universally blown under the ever-evolving culinary innovation of chef David Barzelay, whose last name provides the anagram that is the restaurant's moniker.

BEST NEW SUSHI
Kusakabe
584 Washington St., 415-757-0155
kusakabe-sf.com

Mitsunori Kusakabe is our city's humble version of the storied Jiro Dreams of Sushi, a chef who became a cult star at Sausalito's Sushi Ran before opening up his own jewel of a sushi bar. At $95, Kusakabe has the highest fixed-price minimum omakase (chef's choice meal) in all of SF, but the price tag brings an impossibly beautiful dream sequence of courses that explore different styles of sushi and small bites. As with most high-end omakase spots, you get an à la carte menu at the end, to keep the party going. With temptations like a lobster omelet, which is actually more like a lobster sponge cake, you'll want to do just that. And never, ever wake up.

BEST NEW CAFE (ESPECIALLY IF YOU'RE EXPECTING)
Nourish Cafe
189 Sixth Ave., 415-571-8780
nourishcafesf.com

With apologies to the many lovely pregnant mothers and moms-to-be in the Richmond, we're about to blow up your go-to spot for you and the little one. Tiny Nourish Cafe feeds a disproportionate amount of ladies with raw peapods and vegan treats, including international salads (a healthy take on the Korean staple bibimbap, and a Middle Eastern falafel number), açai bowls, and healthy grains. Everything is made with natural sweeteners and a minimum of oils. Whether this spot is hyped by some nearby prenatal yoga teacher for its plant-based ethos is unknown, but you definitely will see the beginning stages of life stopping in for nourishment when you're noshing here.

BEST NEW RESTAURANT FOR FEELING AT HOME
Liholiho Yacht Club
871 Sutter St., 415-440-5446
liholihoyachtclub.com

Chef/owner Ravi Kapur's pop-up-to-permanent-success story Liholiho Yacht Club transports you into a Hawaiian potluck where everyone has brought his or her best dishes. The menu is eclectic but harmonious and only tangentially Hawaiian, so don't expect spam musubi or loco moco, but you will find tuna poke and a fantastic take on Baked Alaska called Baked Hawaii. Sometimes the combination of dishes might not seem to make sense on paper, but once they arrive and you feel the potluck vibe, they all come together beautifully. Liholiho has propagated a social media hashtag called #getjag that encourages its own twist on a homey, party vibe that you'll feel immediately upon walking in the door.

BEST PLACE TO BRUNCH
Nopa
560 Divisadero St., 415-864-8643
nopasf.com

The restaurant so famous it virtually renamed the neighborhood (although true locals still know to call it the Western Addition), Nopa has never stopped being the perennial brunch champion even as once-humble Divisadero Street has transformed around it. Did you know that it's perfectly socially acceptable to have a Negroni at 10 a.m., as long as it's paired with Nopa's butter-basted eggs and a pecan sticky bun? Even the non-alcoholic beverages are spiffier than almost anyone else's (hello, grapefruit cardamom). From the custard-stuffed French toast to the artichoke and goat cheese quiche, we've mentally made Nopa our go-to brunch spot in perpetuity.

BEST ITERATION OF PRE-1915 CALIFORNIA CUISINE
Californios
3115 22nd St., 415-757-0994
californiossf.com

Californios' Val Cantu has a dark horse concept that blends a reverence for the distant past with a glimpse into the future. Distilling California cuisine down to its ancestral roots, Cantu offers a tasting menu full of surprises. You never know what you're getting when you sit down, and you may not be sure what you've had when you receive an abstract art poster meant to represent the menu at the end of the meal. This all happens in a modern-noir room where Frank Ocean plays on repeat and Robert Mapplethorpe and Damian Hirst art books line the walls. A reasonably priced tasting menu format delivers almost double the value.

BEST THAI
Kin Khao
55 Cyril Magnin St., 415-362-7456
kinkhao.com

Finally, Thai food in a fine dining context! Kin Khao (colloquial Thai slang for "let's eat!") is an » p66

Bus Stop
SALOON SINCE 1900
SAN FRANCISCO
1901 UNION STREET • 415.567.6905
SF WEEKLY WINNER BEST OF SAN FRANCISCO
DAILY DRINK SPECIALS
YOUR MAIN STOP FOR
SPORTS

unlikely gem of individuality inside a corporate hotel (the Parc 55 Wyndham) in Union Square. Owner and Thailand native Pim Techamuanvivit is an author, artisanal jam maker and culinary personality who created a menu of foods she likes to eat. She proudly notes that the seafood is neither frozen nor pumped with antibiotics, and all sauces and curry pastes are made from scratch, often through painstaking processes involving many ingredients. Chef de cuisine Michael Gaines, who helped realize Techamuanvivit's dream, previously worked at Central Kitchen and Manresa, the Michelin-starred restaurant owned by her significant other David Kinch.

BEST PLACE TO SHARE EVERYTHING YOU EAT

Beretta

1199 Valencia St., 415-695-1199, berettasf.com

Depending on who you ask, small plates are either a great idea or a total rip-off. At Beretta, irrespective of portion size, sharing is a must, because everyone at the table deserves a slice or spoonful of gastronomical heaven at economical prices. This is truly a place for everybody, even your visiting great-aunt who doesn't get that whole kale thing. Between the saffron with osso buco risotto and the pizzetta with zucchini, provolone, prosciutto, and goat cheese, there's an item to appease even the pickiest of eaters. And with most of the main dishes ranging between $10 and $20, catering to your refined taste buds won't break the bank. And who else is serving dinner until 1 a.m.?

BEST BURGER

4504 Burgers & BBQ

705 Divisadero St., 415-231-6993. 4505meats.com

The recipe of a simple burger is straightforward: slap a slab of meat patty between two buns. However the difference between a good burger and an epic one is the quality of the ingredients and their accompanying garnishes. At 4504 Burgers & BBQ, Ryan Farr has successfully married simplicity and elegance with his thin, grass-fed beef patty, iceberg lettuce, onions, gruyere cheese, and secret sauce on a deliciously buttery bun. That's why it's called the Best Damn Cheeseburger. (Also, you can add mac and cheese to it.) Although 4505's sign says, "Pig in or pig out," you might just opt to beef out.

BEST NEW FOOD TRUCK

Bowl'd Açai

415-770-7000, bowldacai.com

While San Francisco's ever-expanding cadre of food trucks has largely managed to avoid the stereotypical "roach coach" derision that plagues similar operations elsewhere, they haven't exactly been known as fleets of consummate wellness, either. Bowl'd Açai aims to change the perception of mobile food as unhealthy and cheap with superfood juices, smoothies, and açai bowls packed with Berkeley Bowl produce, bespoke granola from One Planet, and other seemingly indulgent yet beneficial goodies. The açai bowl trend that flew in from Brazil and Hawaii has spurred several purveyors to pop up over the past year. Soon, it could be as ubiquitous as frozen yogurt shops, with this pavement pounder helping to lead the way.

BEST NEW DIM SUM

Dragon Beaux

5700 Geary Blvd., 415-333-8899 dragonbeaux.com

Instant lines greeted the March opening of this new Richmond restaurant from the owners of Koi Palace, Daly City's perpetually packed dim sum banquet hall. Dragon Beaux may be missing the live seafood tanks that dot Koi Palace's entryway, but the juicy soup dumplings and fluffy bao buns are much the same. So is Koi's famed roasted duck burrito, a Chinese pancake-wrapped beauty that would be a runaway hit were it to be foil-wrapped and served in the heart of the Mission. Be forewarned that dim sum service ends in the afternoon as Dragon Beaux morphs into a luxe hot pot establishment. But don't worry, dim sum fiends; you can still get those juicy potstickers at night.

BEST PLACE TO DRINK LIKE IT'S 1915

The Saloon

1232 Grant Ave., 415-989-7666 Sfblues.net/saloon

During the Panama-Pacific Expo, visitors might have stopped in for a sip at the Saloon, a North Beach watering hole that still stands today. Allegedly saved from the 1906 earthquake because firefighters were fans of the brothel attached to it, it's got the same carved wooden bar that was in use in the 1860s. Even though the space is small, it's served as a blues venue on and off for half a century. In a city that's been shedding its dive bars, it's nice to visit the Saloon and realize it looks (and probably smells) the same as it has for over a century.

BEST BOBA DRINK (ALCOHOLIC)

Chino

3198 16th St., 415-552-5771, chinosf.com

Alcoholic boba cocktails haven't taken off in San Francisco just yet, but Chino, a year-old pan-Asian (and sorta Latino) restaurant from the owners of Tacolicious might change that. The Dr. J, a premixed slushie (made with rum, orange, va- » p68

COFFEE HOUSE AND ROASTING COMPANY
Best Neighborhood Coffee Shop 2011
Best Norman Rockwell Parklet 2014

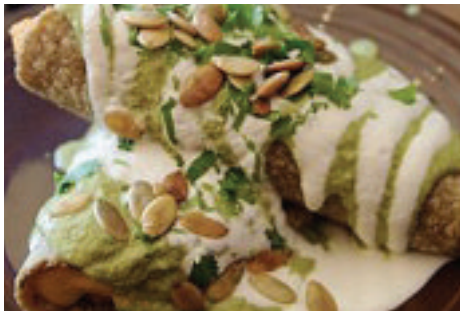
LIVE MUSIC

HAPPIER HOUR EVERY WED
$3 PINTS 6PM-10PM
JAZZ EVERY SUNDAY 4PM-7PM

simple pleasures cafe

WINE | BEER & WINE ON TAP | OPEN LATE
3434 BALBOA ST • 36TH AVE • 415-387-4022

Our Mission Is Love



Lunch and Dinner 11am-11pm • Happy Hour 3pm-6pm
2211 Mission Street, San Francisco • 415-683-1346 • gracias-madre.com

little vietnam cafe

Simple.
Fresh.
Delicious.

Voted Best Banh Mi & Voted SF's Top Ten Best Sandwiches

Banh Mi . Vermicelli
Rice Plates . Salads . Catering

Eat In - Take Out - Catering
309 6th Ave@ Clement
415-876-0283 | littlevietnam@gmail.com

Rock Wall
Wine Company
presents

URBAN PALETTE

SATURDAY, JUNE 6TH, 2015
VIP PREVIEW: 12:00-1:00PM
GENERAL ADMISSION: 1:00PM-5:00PM

Drink: Rock Wall Wines by the Glass * Flight Table
Eat: Multiple Food Booths * Food Trucks
Listen: Live Music * DJs * Live Performers of ALL kinds

General Admission: $15.00 • At The Door: General Admission: $20.00
Children 5 and under are free • Children must be accompanied by an adult at all times.

Must be 21+ to purchase wine.
Age will be verified at admissions.
Free Parking

VISIT US @ 2301 MONARCH STREET, SUITE 300, ALAMEDA, CA 94501

DRINK · EAT · LISTEN · ENJOY

Join us for these Cliff House Weekly Favorites

- Wine Lovers' Tuesday – Half Priced Bottled Wines*
- Bistro Wednesday Nights – $28 Three-Course Prix Fixe
- Friday Night Jazz in the Balcony Lounge
- Sunday Champagne Brunch Buffet

*Some restrictions apply. Promotions are not valid on holidays.

The Lands End Lookout

Be sure to visit the Lookout Cafe at the Lands End visitor center. Operated by the Cliff House team, the cafe serves delicious, locally sourced items. The center, operated by the Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy, offers educational exhibits, stunning views, and the amazing Lands End Trails.

Open daily from 9:00 am – 5:00 pm Located at Point Lobos and Merrie Way

1090 Point Lobos 415-386-3330 www.CliffHouse.com

FULL BAR
WITH WEEKLY ROTATING
DRAFT SPECIALS
CRAFT & IMPORT BOTTLES
TOMMY'S JOYNT
FOOD & BEVERAGE CO.
THE DOLLAR IS STILL STRONG AT TOMMY'S
A SAN FRANCISCO TRADITION FOR OVER 65 YEARS!
BEST PLACE TO DRINK
1101 GEARY BLVD • 415-775-4216
WWW.TOMMYSJOYNT.COM
1ST HOUR OF PARKING (FREE @ AMC)

WOW WAITERS ON WHEELS
Your Favorite Restaurant Now Delivers™
SF WEEKLY BEST OF SAN FRANCISCO WINNER 2015
Thank You for Voting Us
BEST DELIVERY SERVICE
877.815.8527
waitersonwheels.com

THE NEW SPOT
Mexican & Salvadorian Cuisine
632 20TH ST.
MON-TUE 10:30AM-4PM
WED-SAT
10:30AM-4PM & 5-10PM
(415) 558.0556

DOUGHBIES
The World's Largest Local Bakery
Freshly Baked Cookies
Delivered in Under
20 Minutes
doughbies.com
@doughbies

Locanda's Jewish-style artichoke

Omar Mamoon

BEST PLACES FOR ARTICHOKES

BY BRAD JAPHE

Make way for the artichoke. The once underutilized flowering bud is rising to prominence in contemporary gourmet cooking, arriving unexpectedly atop Mexican cheese plates, with fried eggs in pasta, and subbing for meat in savory vegan offerings. It's even making its way into cocktails in the form of Cynar—an increasingly popular Italian bitter liqueur. As artichokes are now in season, here are San Francisco's most creative artichoke applications.

A surefire way to make anything taste awesome? Fry it, of course. **Locanda** (557 Valencia, 415-863-6800) knows this, and nails it with its Jewish-Style Artichoke, a mound of chip-like 'chokes salted and brightened by lemon juice and fresh mint. Although Locanda claims it's inspired by Rome's sizable Semitic enclave, you needn't keep kosher to crave these crisps. The $8 app, markedly suited to American palates, plays as a healthier-feeling basket of fries.

As versatile as it is hearty, the artichoke exudes rich flavors with ease when grilled properly. **The Alembic** (1725 Haight St., 415-666-0822) offers a case study in the form of its grilled artichokes: succulent and slightly smoky, the perfect counterpoint to a creamy bed of burrata seated underneath. It's far from your typical bar bite.

In a similar vein, the Cedar Plank Roasted Artichoke Flatbread is an excellent addition to the menu at **ThirstyBear** (661 Howard, 415-974-0905). Don't let the inventive suds on tap at SOMA's original organic brewpub blind you to the kitchen's prowess. This artichoke offering amplifies the veggie's protein punch with umami-heavy portabella mushrooms marinated in olive oil, thyme, and shallots. The combination is then baked on top of house-made flatbread, a vegetarian delight fit for meat eaters.

Since the majority of artichokes imported to the U.S. come by way of Peru, it's hardly a surprise that **Mi Lindo Peru** (3226 Mission St., 415-642-4897) makes great use of its native crop. The homey Bernal Heights outpost is responsible for the city's tastiest artichoke dip. Its Cangrejo Con Alcachofas mixes abundant portions of oven-baked artichoke hearts with crab chunks, caramelized onions, and melted Parmesan. It's filling starter, served with whole grain crackers, and built to share.

If all this talk about food is making you thirsty, you'll be glad to know that artichokes have got you covered there, too. Cynar cocktails are popping up all over town. The bar at **Cockscomb** (564 Fourth St., 415-974-0700) was built to highlight gin, yet its Cynar-based Bullitt — named for the Steve McQueen film, not the bourbon — has become its best-selling mixed drink. The $14 concoction balances the spice of a small batch rye with the delicate and slightly sweet artichoke liqueur, marrying it all under the citrus bouquet of grapefruit bitters.

nilla, and condensed milk) is a huge improvement over that '80s mall taste sensation, the Orange Julius. And the Boba Fett, an intergalactic combination of vodka, apple, ginger, Thai basil, and lemon, will have you seeing stars if you sip it too quickly (which you will). They're served with a sealed plastic lid and giant straw the way they are at mainstream boba tea places like the Taiwanese titan Quickly, but they contain a naughty surprise.

BEST SOUTHERN NACHOS

Southpaw BBQ

2170 Mission, 415-934-9300
southpawbbqsf.com

The Natchez at Mission barbecue joint Southpaw BBQ & Southern Cookin' are the perfect blend of the South meeting the further south. As a hangover cure (combined with an order of fried pickles), they work wonderfully. Pulled pork, black-eyed peas, pimento béchamel and hot sauce cover warm potato chips that stay crisp for as long as the Natchez remain on the table. They're so delicious they feel like a secret, and it's amazing that Southern condiments on potato chips aren't more common. Southpaw's wise owners believe that Southern cooking should be enjoyed with a pint of beer and whiskey, so choose from a beer brewed on-site, or a spirit from their extensive whiskey book.

BEST NEW PIZZA

Jersey

145 Second St., 415-912-1502, jerseysf.com

Jersey just opened in the Financial District, but it serves a damn solid pie. Pizzas are categorized as "Jersey style" (thin crust) or "California style," with thicker crusts that come topped with items like asparagus, beech mushrooms, green garlic and mozzarella or traditional margherita toppings. Ranging from the simple, like a mozzarella and parmesan pizza that comes with the sauce on top, to the more decadent Bianca, the thin-crust pies are especially satisfying. Service is fun, the wines are excellent, and Jersey's cozy space is a great place to enjoy a meal, whether it's on a FiDi lunch break or a Friday night.

BEST SANDWICH

Merigan Sub Shop

636 Second St., 415-536-2991
merigansubshop.com

Merigan's sandwiches are completely delicious. Chef Liza Shaw dishes up East Coast classics, like the Arista (roasted and braised pork, sharp provolone, rapini, hots) and the best chicken parm in the city. Despite their apparent simplicity, the quality and harmony of the subs showcase the fact that Shaw once ran a formal kitchen at A16. The sandwiches are huge, the ingredients are fresh, and every part is assembled with purpose and care. Merigan is also probably one of the few sandwich shops that draws a loyal vegetarian following, with sandwiches like the Panelle (ceci bean fritters, fresh ricotta, olive salad, tomato conserva, arugula). Now that it's baseball season, this is an excellent option for brown-bagging it at AT&T park.

BEST PLACE TO EAT BRUNCH WHEN THE WEATHER IS WARM

Mission Rock Resort

817 Terry A. Francois Blvd., 415-701-7625.
Missionrockresort.com

Mission Rock Resort's deck is a beautiful place to be when there's no fog in sight. Hanging over the bay, it's like a dressed-up version of the Ramp, but with more space. Classic brunch drinks like micheladas, margaritas, and bacon Bloody Mary's are solid and service is smooth. The menu features a variety of takes on eggs Benedict, and — being so close to the water — oysters, littleneck clams, and ceviche verde from the raw bar. Mission Rock has all the necessary parts to assemble a perfect sunny day in the Dogpatch, where sunny days happen to be far from rare.

BEST HOMEGROWN CHAIN

Super Duper

superdupersf.com

With five locations in San Francisco, another four across the bay, and more on the way, Super Duper clearly wants to replicate the success of Five Guys and Shake Shack, other burger joints that became regional powerhouses. The only problem for the competition is that Super Duper is just better. After Super Duper's opening in the Castro in 2010, these $7.75 Niman Ranch patties still sell for less than half of what some of SF's burgers go for (even with roasted portabello), and the garlic fries are pretty darn terrific. Not only can you get a chocolate vanilla swirl shake made with Straus organic cream, but you can spike it with vodka for $1.50. Mic drop!

BEST ICE CREAM

Mr. and Mrs. Miscellaneous

699 22nd St., 415-970-0750

They have no website, they don't tweet, and they're only open until 6 p.m., but you really can't go wrong trying your luck in the Dogpatch with Mr. and Mrs. Miscellaneous. This husband-and-wife duo churns out basil chip, Ovaltine, rose lemonade, and Frosted Flakes, and they've even got their own answer to the ubiquitous salted caramel phenomenon called "burnt sugar." While Mr. & Mrs. Miscellaneous runs out of handmade cones a little often — it's » p70

OPEN DAILY ✦ HAPPY HOUR NOON - 7P.M.

DANNY COYLE'S
·San Francisco·

Visit our website
WWW.DANNYCOYLES.COM

FOLLOW US ON TWITTER @DANNYCOYLES
FIND US ON FACEBOOK
SCAN HERE FOR OUR SPORTS SCHEDULE

668 HAIGHT ST. (at Pierce St.) ✦ 415-558-8375

hard work, we get it — it's worth the extra dollar if you can get one. And why, oh why, did it take someone this long to turn San Francisco's favorite amaro into ice cream? Fernet-Branca is here in dairy-based form, and it's delicious.

BEST POP-UP (DINNER)

Pink Zebra

Inside Tao Yin Restaurant
3515 20th St., 415-534-5844
pinkzebrasf.com

Let's just come right out and say it: Pink Zebra wants to be the Japanese equivalent of Mission Chinese Food. It's a five-nights-a-week pop-up with a hipster vibe that engulfed a forgettable restaurant, serves things like beef tongue with toasted pepitas popcorn with crispy pig ears, but chef Jesse Koide is also the guy running the show over at Lung Shan while Danny Bowien gets his NYC locations going. Only 10 lucky diners get Pink Zebra's omakase treatment on a given night (five seats, two seatings) but the izakaya menu is strong and changes often. It ain't cheap, but clams with lamb chorizo and black garlic shoyu are worth the splurge.

BEST NEW PLACE IN AN OLD BUILDING

Mourad

140 New Montgomery St., 415-660-2500
mouradsf.com

We were slightly caught off guard by the breadth of Mourad Lahlou's eponymous follow-up to Aziza. (A $160 lamb shoulder that serves four-to-six isn't something you see often.) But this powerhouse in the northeast corner of the old Pac Bell Building does the Deco skyscraper justice with its stunning bar, glassed-in wine racks, and private rooms upstairs. Even if the evening's plans don't include a $48 ribeye, this Moroccan-Californian restaurant is worth a stop just for the exquisite cocktails and a bar menu where everything's under $20. Sharing a patio with its glamorous sister, Trou Normand, Mourad might be San Francisco's most international restaurant.

BEST TAPAS

Beso

4058 18th St., 415-801-5392, besosf.com

The follow-up to Market Street's Bisou Bistron-

Arinell Pizza
SF WEEKLY WINNER BEST OF SAN FRANCISCO
NEW YORK STYLE
Quality and Value Since 1975
NOW SERVING PIZZA 'TIL 2AM
FRI & SAT IN THE MISSION!
Downtown Berkeley
2119 Shattuck Ave.
(next to B of A)
(510) 841-4035
SF - The Mission
509 Valencia St.
(at 16th Street)
(415) 255-1303
NOW OFFERING VEGAN PIZZA IN BERKELEY!
Open 7 days a week

BEST PLACES TO DINE AL FRESCO

BY BRAD JAPHE

'Tis the season to tipple al fresco. For a city roundly ridiculed for its borderline subarctic climate, we do have our fair share of outdoor destinations for drinking and dining. There are, of course, the familiar beer gardens, like Zeitgeist, and The Yard — which recently opened just outside of AT&T Park. But it's not just the beer drinkers hogging all the (scant) sunshine. We are in no short supply of upscale patios and roof decks from which to imbibe high-minded cocktails without sinister ceilings to confine us. The next time the heavens open to reveal an afternoon on the proper side of 60, head to these hangouts to enjoy some fresh air while you sip.

For a huge outdoor space in the midst of downtown — yet still peacefully secluded from it all — it doesn't get better than **Jones** (620 Jones St., 415-496-6858). The expansive bar and nightclub serves up a bevy of $10 specialty cocktails to be enjoyed on plush patio furniture overlooking the skyline looming above. Other amenities include ample heat lamps, insulating you from nighttime shivers, an eclectic list of bar bites, ranging from succotash to charcuterie, and a worthwhile weeknight happy hour 5-7 p.m.

More than just a playful name, **Tipsy Pig** (2231 Chestnut St., 415-292-2300) offers a taste of living high on the hog. Its open garden patio is open year round, but sheds that tented canopy come May. It's the ideal setting for a weekend brunch in the Marina, complete with sensationally spiced Bloody Marys and cucumber-laced Pimm's Cups for all. Nothing says spring like its black-pepper candied bacon.

How do you improve upon a seafood-forward menu of Mediterranean fare, backed by an exemplary-yet-focused collection of craft beer, spirits, cocktails, and wine? Offer it all in a courtyard setting while projecting foreign films on a large outdoor wall. And that's why **Foreign Cinema** (2534 Mission St., 415-648-7600) remains one of the greatest spots for an outdoor meal, brunch or dinner. If you're one of the half dozen or so San Franciscans who hasn't yet been to this Mission mainstay, there's no day like today — or anytime this summer, really.

omy, Beso opened around the block on what is now one of the more exciting strips in the Castro. This Catalan tapas restaurant has an exceptional selection of charcuterie (acorn-fed Iberico paleta) and cheeses like garrotxa (a hard goat cheese) and idiazabal (smoked sheep milk cured in olive oil), along with familiar favorites like pulpo a la plancha. Beso lacks a bar, but there's lots of Spanish wine to pair with that chorizo. Start with paella for two, add a low-lit décor, and the ambiance is perfect for date night. Small plates might be everywhere now but Barcelona, like, totally started it.

BEST NEW OLD-SCHOOL PLACE THAT BUCKS 2015'S TRENDS

Gaspar Brasserie

185 Sutter St., 415-576-8800.
gasparbrasserie.com

If you want Edison bulbs, white subway tiles, and your very own compost bin overflowing with kale, you can find them on every street corner. But for a classy throwback to a different era, head to Gaspar Brasserie in the Galleria Park Hotel. It's not quite snooty-maître-d'-with-a-white-towel-draped-over-his-forearm-territory, but this upscale French restaurant with burgundy banquettes and giant posters of long-gone aperitifs refuses to kowtow to the prevailing winds and any corn-based utensils borne aloft on them. This two-level restaurant and its well-executed menu have succeeded in making moules frites feel fresh and new. Cosmopolitanism without cosmopolitans, but with frog legs — who would have guessed?

BEST RAMEN

Orenchi Beyond

174 Valencia St., [no phone]
orenchi-beyond.com

Calling any single bowl of ramen the best is like grading people's children, and while we're fully prepared for the howls of protest, the fact is that Orenchi Beyond's tonkotsu is simply spectacular. The San Jose import with the long lines and the artsy vibe clearly lets its broth simmer for quite awhile before ladling it up with pork belly, a soft-boiled egg and the like. The soy-based Chu-Ka soba is nothing to sneeze at, either. As virtually every neighborhood has a solid-to-excellent ramen shop now, it almost pains us to heap more praise on Valencia — we've gone to the Outer Sunset for ramen, we swear! — but Orenchi just does it right.

BEST USE OF COFFEE IN FOOD

Mazarine Coffee

720 Market St., 415-398-7700
mazarinecoffee.com

When Mazarine Coffee opened up in Mid-Market in December, it exuded a certain seriousness. Its baristas have competed at the national level and it's named for the largest library in France, after all. Lofty aspirations aside, the lunch menu incorporates roasted beans to a truly impressive degree. The coffee-roasted beet and quinoa salad is dressed with an espresso vinaigrette that adds a nice acidic touch (and cuts through the generous helping of goat cheese, too). When you've already had one cup too many and desperately need a nutritious meal to plug the hole in your stomach lining, but you don't want to sacrifice alertness or productivity, swing on by.

BEST BONE BROTH

Belcampo Meats

1998 Polk St., 415-660-5573
belcampomeatco.com

While we freely concede that bone broth sounds like something Gwyneth might fluff in *Goop*, Belcampo Meats does it right. The San Francisco outpost of this Haute Californie meat emporium is hawking $10 quarts and $5 cups of exalted meat stock, as is or flavored (hello, ginger-garlic-coridander!). Anyone looking to break a four-latte-a-day habit while also ingesting a bit of animal collagen might want to give them a whirl, while those who automatically want the alcoholic version of any given trend should look to the Boney Mary, made with barley spirit and something called shotgun sauce, or the Bone Broth Toddy. In other words, San Francisco has a new hangover tonic, courtesy of a butcher shop.

BEST POP-UP (BREAKFAST)

Post-Soviet

Every other Monday at farm:table
754 Post St., [no phone or site]

The best pop-ups sprout in an ecological niche, and the tiny, always lovely farm:table has been ripe for one for some time. Every other Monday, this bonanza of peasant food delivers pickled veggies, Uzbek-Korean carrot salad, savory rosemary puffs, and tvorogs (sweet farmers' cheeses with vanilla custard, currants, and homemade jam) to a corner of the Tenderloin not known for such delicacies. As the proprietors hail from the Second » p73

WOODFORD RESERVE.
CRAFT BOURBON.

LEARN ABOUT OUR FIVE SOURCES OF FLAVOR

WOODFORD RESERVE. CRAFT BOURBON.

CRAFT CAREFULLY. DRINK RESPONSIBLY.
Woodford Reserve® Kentucky Straight Bourbon Whiskey, 45.2% Alcohol by Volume, The Woodford Reserve Distillery, Versailles, KY ©2014

SF WEEKLY BEST OF SAN FRANCISCO WINNER 2015

THE ONE AND ONLY
NICK'S
CRISPY TACOS
ROUGE

VOTED BEST TACOS · BOOK YOUR NEXT PARTY WITH US! 415-286-8621
WE CATER 415.409.8226 · WWW.NICKSCRISPYTACOS.COM

1500 BROADWAY AT POLK

FOLLOW US ON FOR DAILY SPECIALS & GIVEAWAYS!

CHABAA
Thai Cuisine

DINE-IN • TAKE OUT • DELIVERY

Open Till 1 am Everyday!

UNION SQUARE: 420 Geary St. • 415-346-3121

TRY OUR SECRET MENU

SUNSET: 2123 Irving St. • 415-753-3347

www.chabaathaicuisinesf.com
Call for Catering Options & Discounts

World, it's a far cry from Froot Loops, but that's the point. Post-Soviet does what we want all pop-ups to do: Serve delicious food that's impossible to find elsewhere. And all without attracting fevered neocons who want to reignite the Cold War.

BEST MEATY LUNCH

Lamb Sandwich at Souvla

517 Hayes St., 415-400-5458

souvlasf.com

There really isn't a single thing on Souvla's menu that isn't worth trying, but the lamb sandwich at this Greek spot in Hayes Valley brings together everything you could want for lunch. Made with harissa-spiked yogurt, cucumber, radish, pickled onion and feta (and ideally paired with olive-oil-soaked Greek fries), it's probably the best-ever version of that widely reviled ethnic monstrosity, the gyro. If no one's looking, get a glass of retsina, too, and you'll see why the guy in the blown-up photo on the wall is going apeshit with the furniture. The fact that you can get a lamb and eggs breakfast sandwich shouldn't be overlooked, either.

BEST SUCCESSOR TO A NEIGHBORHOOD INSTITUTION THAT CLOSED

Emanuel Coffee

488 Haight St., 415-865-0522

emanuelcoffee.com

Nothing can adequately replace the plantain burrito at Cuco's — nothing. The family-run establishment on Haight and Fillmore that fought a grinding war of attrition with its landlord finally succumbed in 2014, and considering which way the prevailing winds are blowing, the space seemed destined to become a cold-pressed juice shop. And then it didn't. » p74

BEST NEW FRENCH RESTAURANTS THAT AREN'T TOTALLY FRENCH

BY TAMARA PALMER

French restaurants in San Francisco have typically been the exclusive dominion of actual French chefs and owners like Hubert Keller and Roland Passot, but this was the year when non-French chefs in the city tapped into the classic cuisine for inspiration for modern gastronomy. Corey Lee, who was best known for his cooking tenure under the titan Thomas Keller at The French Laundry in Yountville before opening his own pedigreed Benu in 2010, has a smash hit on his hands with **Monsieur Benjamin** (451 Gough St., 415-403-2233). The 90-seat Hayes Valley restaurant is where he and chef Jason Berthold boldly remix French classics and handily take up the void left by the closure of classic SF French restaurant Fleur de Lys. Their menu is markedly ambitious, with more than 40 items.

Husband and wife team Lissa Doumani and Hiro Sone, who own Terra restaurant in St. Helena and Ame in the St. Regis Hotel in San Francisco, are well known for their skills with Japanese cooking — they've got a brilliant book called *A Visual Guide to Sushi-Making at Home* by Chronicle Books. But with the 99-seat **Urchin Bistrot** (584 Valencia, 415-861-1844), in the former Slanted Door/Wo Hing General Lounge in the Mission, they've joined with former Ame chef Michael Morrison and turned their talents to the art of French cooking that utilizes the lightness of California produce but still takes indulgent moments to revel in the utmost decadence. Take the signature Hiro sandwich, a heart-stopping combination of meatballs, roasted bone marrow and jalapeño peppers and wash it down with French wine or a luxe cognac cocktail. Ooh la la.

A southern French restaurant that originally began as a pop-up inside Sugarlump Café, **Sous Beurre Kitchen** (2704 24th St., 415-874-9831) is Chef Michael Mauschbaugh's 74-seat gem in the southeastern extremity of the Mission. While the Pacific Coast bouillabaisse and the roasted lamb chop have garnered most of the attention, Sous Beurre nonetheless lavishes a great deal of fuss on starters like its foie gras salad or boudin blanc. Ever on the cusp of today's trends, SBK has also forgone tipping for the inclusive service model.

la Mediterranee
Cafe | Restaurant | Catering
SF WEEKLY BEST OF SAN FRANCISCO WINNER 2015

2210 FILLMORE @SACRAMENTO
SAN FRANCISCO • 415.921.2956

288 NOE ST @MARKET
SAN FRANCISCO • 415.431.7210

2936 COLLEGE AVE @ASHBY
BERKELEY • 510.540.7773

SERVING THE BAY AREA SINCE 1979
CAFELAMED.COM

Doctor's Lounge
Our Shots Won't Make You Cry!
MEET
EAT
DRINK
MON-FRI 2PM- 2AM
SAT- SUN 8AM-2AM
ALL DRAFT BEER $4
FIRST BEER ONLY WITH MENTION OF SF WEEKLY
4826 Mission Street, San Francisco
(415) 586-9730 doctorsloungesf.com

SF Evergreen
SFEVERGREEN.COM

VOTED BEST SANDWICH!
SF WEEKLY BEST OF SAN FRANCISCO WINNER 2015

IKE'S LOVE & SANDWICHES
(415) 553-6888 | 3489 16th St., San Francisco

Emanuel Coffee, a Salvadorean pupsueria with a wide-ranging, Benedict-heavy breakfast menu and some seriously good sandwiches. Everything's under $13, and the space has been transformed into a veritable solarium compared to the chamber of shadows that was Cuco's. The former home of San Francisco's best outside-the-Mission burrito is now the home of its best outside-the-Mission cochinita perbil (that is, carnitas from the Yucatan). What gentrification?

BEST FOLLOW-UP TO A BELOVED CLASSIC

Brenda's Meat & Three

919 Divisadero St., 415-926-8657
Brendasmeatandthree.com

Named after the concept of a proper Southern meal (an entrée plus three side dishes), Chef Brenda Buenviaje has expanded the culinary reach of her eponymous Polk Street restaurant far beyond her hometown of New Orleans. It is a gut-busting endeavor, from the shrimp hushpuppies to the ham steak with red eye gravy to the po' boys that pretty much have to be eaten open-faced. Here, mac and cheese is considered a vegetable and you should probably eat at least one serving daily. If you love the beignets at Brenda's mother ship, don't miss the calas, served hot from the fryer with molasses butter.

BEST GAME BURGER

Roam Artisan Burgers

1923 Fillmore, 415-800-7801
1785 Union, 510-440-7626
Roamburgers.com

Any eatery worth its salt can dish out a decent beef patty between its buns. But when craving a slightly more exotic variation, the field narrows considerably. Roam Artisan Burgers leads the herd, with bison and elk as dueling mainstays on its fully customizable menu. The elk works particularly well on the Pacific Blue style, bringing blue cheese and caramelized onions into a pungent collision of sweet and savory, with a little steak sauce added on. With just two locations inside the city, Roam has passed up empire-building in favor of creating something even more meaningful: a unique hamburger.

BEST CAFÉ TO GET HYPED ON COFFEE

Antigua Coffee Shop

1131 Taraval St., 415-683-3259

Though it replaced the beloved Brown Owl Coffee nestled at the 22nd Avenue L-Embarcadero stop, Antigua Coffee Shop has overcome the change. Besides being a cute little neighborhood café to work or hang out in, it energizes its customers. That's putting it mildly. With every cuppa of Joe, we begin to wonder: Is there cocaine in the coffee? It's a fair question to ask when a regular coffee keeps you up until 7 a.m. If you're feeling brave (and desperate), give the Red-eye a try. If you're afraid of coffee, then so be it, try the delectable breakfast burritos and heavenly sandwiches. Both the food and the prices are easy to digest.

BEST NON-TAQUERIA-BASED BREAKFAST BURRITO

Boogaloo's

3296 22nd St., 415-824-4088
boogaloossf.com

We're now at a point where burrito shops around the world use the Mission as a tagline. On our own travels, we've found a Mission Burrito in Cardiff, U.K., and another in Brisbane, Australia. (The latter actually has BART signs in the restaurant.) The truth of the matter — and it's one that S.F. residents have been proud of for decades — is that the greatest burritos in the world come from San Francisco taquerias. But here's the thing: When your friends want to make it a non fast-food morning, with mimosas and other such luxuries, brunch outings become impossible in traditional taquerias. That's where Boogaloo's comes in. Not only does this place cater to vegetarians in a way that is next level — yes please, I'd like to add all of those vegan meats to my meal! — it offers an exquisitely crafted, lovingly presented whatever-the-hell-you-want-in-there Burrito Desayuno that is, frankly, unbeatable.

BEST QUICK GRUB BEFORE A SHOW

Connecticut Yankee

100 Connecticut St. 415-552-4440
theyankee.com

Heading to see a show at Bottom Of The Hill or Thee Parkside? Looking for quick eats that won't give you indigestion or 20 forms of gastritis? You're in luck: The Connecticut Yankee serves up some of the best pub fare in the Bay Area and has a wait staff and bartenders that know how to take care of business. From the Candlestick Special (an awesome vegetarian chili) to the Larry Birdger (grass-fed beef burger patty topped with grilled onions and the works), there is something for everyone. One taste of the Pee-Wee Herman (Carolina pulled-pork), or the delicious Wade Boggs (grilled chicken sandwich), should draw you in to hang a bit before catching that national act you've been waiting to see down the street. Plus, if you drink one too many, you can always hang with the regulars and catch some live music (depending on the date) by acoustic acts and full-scale bands as well.

DO LAB PRESENTS:

LIGHTNING IN A BOTTLE

ARTS & MUSIC FESTIVAL

MAY 21ST - 25TH • MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND • BRADLEY, CA

MUSIC

FLUME ▲ SBTRKT ▲ ODESZA ▲ RL GRIME

TYCHO ▲ THOMAS JACK ▲ GRIZ ▲ PANDA BEAR ▲ JOHN DIGWEED

LUCENT DOSSIER EXPERIENCE ▲ ALUNAGEORGE ▲ THE OPIUO BAND ▲ POLIÇA

PLUS OVER 100 MORE ACTS

INTERACTIVE AREAS

THE TEMPLE OF CONSCIOUSNESS ▲ THE VILLAGE

MEDITATION LOOKOUT ▲ THE LEARNING KITCHEN ▲ NEW THUNDER STAGE

THE GRAND ARTIQUE ▲ LIGHTNING IN A PAINTCAN ▲ THE HEALING SANCTUARY

PLUS MANY MORE ATTRACTIONS

SPEAKERS & WORKSHOPS

NEAL DONALD WALSCH ▲ DENNIS MCKENNA ▲ NASSIM HARAMEIN

SACRED FIRE CEREMONIES ▲ AYURVEDA ▲ ECSTATIC DANCE

LIVING & SUPERFOODS ▲ ANCESTRAL ARTS ▲ WITCH'S HUT

PERMACULTURE ACTION HUB ▲ LOVE, SEX, & PORN PANEL

PLUS HUNDREDS MORE

NEW BELGIUM BREWING

GT'S

LIGHTNINGINABOTTLE.ORG

Eventbrite

Courtesy of California Historical Society

BARS & CLUBS

Ruby Skye

15 YEAR ANNIVERSARY

5 NIGHTS OF CELEBRATION!

WEDNESDAY, MAY 6
INVITE ONLY INDUSTRY NIGHT!
MARK FARINA

THURSDAY, MAY 7
CONTROL 18+
REAL THUGZ TOUR
CRIZZLY

FRIDAY, MAY 8
STEVE ANGELLO

SATURDAY, MAY 9
WILL SPARKS

SUNDAY, MAY 10
AW21
TORQ 18+

VIP BOOTH & BOTTLE RESERVATIONS AVAILABLE. TICKETS AT EVENTBRITE.COM OR THE RUBY SKYE BOX OFFICE.
RUBY SKYE · 420 MASON STREET · 415-693-0777 · WWW.RUBYSKYE.COM

Early 20th century pop stars from across the globe converged on the 1915 Panama-Pacific International Exposition like hipsters to Pitchfork Fest. John Philip Sousa led a band at the Court of the Universe, British composer Edwin Lemare did 100 performances on a breathtakingly massive 7,000-pipe organ inside the 3,000-seat Festival Hall, but the most buzzed-about act on the bill was Awai's Royal Hawaiian Quartette. Yes, folks, Jester's Palace, the Hula Hula, and Festival Hall all were rocking hard at the world's fair.

And the clubs of San Francisco have been rocking ever since, from the halcyon days of Haight-Ashbury psychedelia, to the edgy years of punk and hip-hop, to cabarets of the Castro up to today's still-vibrant electronic dance scene. We may be losing some of the flavor of the S.F. club scene to Oakland, but there are more actual bars today — dive and otherwise — than ever before.

BEST NEW BAR WITH AN OLD-SCHOOL GAME

Jackalope

1092 Post St., 415-735-552

jackalopesf.com

Borrowing liberally from the game that everybody loves the most about *The Price is Right*, Jackalope has a drinking game installed on the wall. For $11, patrons may play Plinko Drinko, dropping a chip into a slot and hoping it lands on the four shots of American Honey whiskey or a shot of Patron and a free Plinko (there's also a Hand Grenade, Motor Oil and a Unicorn Tear). Sure, the Marina is creeping steadily southward along Polk and has almost captured City Hall. That doesn't mean bros and bras don't know how to have a good time. And if you hate this idea, there's always Duck Hunt.

BEST SUPER DUPER OLD SCHOOL NEIGHBORHOOD BAR

Granada Cafe Bar

4753 Mission

415-586-1515

No website. Are you kidding?

Out in the Excelsior, there's a bar that opens early and closes early, where men with ballcaps emblazoned with battleship call signs drink shots and beers at 11 a.m. and Johnny Cash is on the jukebox. Everyone's lived here for eons; you may even find a San Francsico accent or two in this place. The marquee outside says Granada Cafe, but that Excelsior Italian mainstay closed down long ago. Instead, it's now a Henry's Hunan (befitting the neighborhood's demographic shift) and the Italian joint's accompanying lounge still serves as a timewarp/lounge. You don't have to have gone to high school in the neighborhood to be welcome here. But it doesn't hurt. No, it does not.

BEST TRIP TO THE RETRO-FUTURE

The Interval at Long Now

2 Marina Blvd., 415-561-6582

theinterval.org

The Long Now Foundation is a society of eccentrics dedicated to making sure homo sapiens sticks around for a good long while and that just so happens to be keen on boozing it up in a rarefied atmosphere. Having snagged a choice spot in the Fort Mason Center, it opened up the Interval, a bar and event space with an elaborate cocktail menu and lively discussions on cyborgs, modern blacksmithing, and clocks that run for 10 millennia without adjustment. This spiffed-up, 80-year-old building bursts with erudition scientific detail (there's even an orrery, or scale model of the solar system), meaning that even if you drink yourself into a stupor, you'll still walk out smarter.

BEST NEW COCKTAIL BAR

%ABV

3174 18th St., 415-400-4748, abvsf.com

Anyplace that has a drink called Whiskey in Church is all right by us, and even though it sounds like something a decades-old dive would hawk, it's actually at one of the fancier Nouveau Mission bars. Utensil-free %ABV is famed for its burger and its falafel lamb dog, but really, it's the cocktails that keep those buns glued to their barstools. House-bottled experiments infuse in the corners as patrons suck down unique concoctions such as Lefty's Fizz (mezcal, lime, grapefruit shrub, dry Curacao and egg white) or a Mumbai Mule (made with saffron vodka). Not all $12 cocktail bars are created equal. Some are even open before school gets out.

BEST BAR THAT'S BEEN A BAR SINCE BEFORE 1915

The Uptown

200 Capp St., 415-861-8231

When longtime owner and resident grump Scott Ellsworth passed away last year, it seemed like the Uptown might bite the dust. (The nearby Elbo Room is a dead man walking.) But the dive bar that's been serving beer and bourbon since whatever preceded it burned down after the 1906 quake isn't going anywhere, now that a consortium of bartenders and regulars took it over. The Uptown is still full of great bad art and incorrigible bohemians, drinking the day away and refusing unsolicited opinions on how the joint might be improved. May this consummate dive live on and be nasty as hell, forever. » p80

READERS POLL WINNERS

BEST BEER SELECTION
GOLDEN GATE TAP ROOM

BEST COCKTAIL
PALM HOUSE

BEST COCKTAIL BAR
TRICK DOG

BEST DIVE BAR
LUCKY 13

BEST GAY FRIENDLY BAR
EL RIO

BEST KARAOKE
THE MINT

BEST LIVE MUSIC VENUE
THE CHAPEL

BEST MEZCAL BAR
LA URBANA

BEST NEW BAR (TIE)
BENJAMIN COOPER, POP'S

BEST NEW CLUB
OASIS

BEST PUB CRAWL
SANTACON

BEST ROOFTOP
EL TECHO DE LOLINDA

BEST SINGLES BAR
MADRONE

BEST STRIP CLUB
HUSTLER CLUB

BEST WINE BAR
NOETECA

THE NEW TEMPLE

UPCOMING CALENDAR

FRI 05.08 MAY

SAT 05.09 MAY

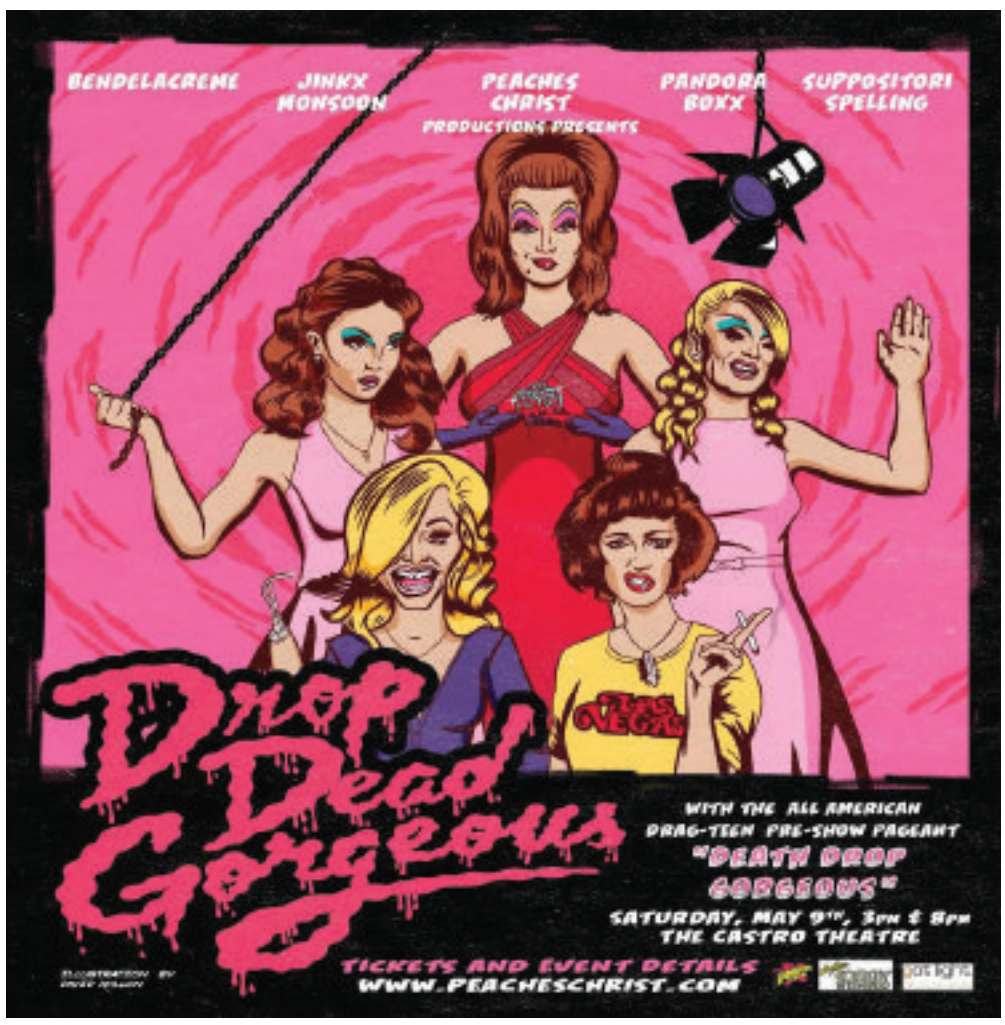
FRI 05.15 MAY

SAT 05.16 MAY

SAT 06.06 JUNE

TEMPLE

TEMPLESF.COM | 415-312-3668 | INFO@TEMPLESF.COM | 540 HOWARD STREET, SAN FRANCISCO | OPEN 10PM - 4AM | AGES 21+



Calibree Photography

BEST GAY BAR/CLUB

Oasis

298 11th St., 415-795-3180
sfoasis.com

With the endless drumbeat of gay bars closing down, it's nice to hear a different rhythm for once. Drag queens Heklina and D'Arcy Drollinger opened up this cabaret in a moribund Soma club just in time for New Year's, and Oasis instantly became one of SF's best venues, home to Mother (the new, weekly version of Heklina's former Trannyshack), visiting drag performers, and shows like Drollinger's own *Shit & Champagne*. Polymorphous perversity is back, and you might see a transman in drag pole-dancing while a faux queen rocks the main stage for an audience full of unclassifiable gender oddballs cheering the whole thing on. Thank you for the music, Oasis. And for drinks we can afford.

BEST NEW DISTILLERY

Seven Stills

435 23rd St., 760-470-2721
Sevenstillsofsf.com

Bursting onto the local scene in 2013 with a line of experimental bitters, this Dogpatch-based Seven Stills distillery matured beautifully in 2014, releasing the first in its Seven Stills for Seven Hills whiskey series. The line of brown spirits is distilled from local craft beers, with every whiskey representing a notable knoll in the city. Standing in for Twin Peaks, Chocasmoke girds its peaty malt backbone in the concentrated essence of a chocolate stout. The finished product is sensibly balanced, yet stunningly unique. With distinctive labeling designed by local artists, the exciting new offerings from this young project evoke the innovative spirit of San Francisco, both inside and outside the bottle.

BEST BAR TREND

Negroni Variations

Ah, the classic Negroni cocktail: uniting the botanical notes of gin with the bitterness of Campari, tied together under a musty little bow of vermouth. To any seasoned drinker, it's no less notable an Italian export than pasta, Parmesan, or Prosecco. But in a city constantly yearning for what's next, it was inevitable that even this revered staple would witness a rejiggering. Mezcal is making itself a formidable infiltrator, with Loló and Southside Spirit House serving so-called Oaxacan Negronis. Blackbird skewed sweeter with its Rhum variation. Hakkasan has introduced smoke-infused Grand Marnier into its. But for a surefire lift of the kilt, try subbing out the gin with a peat-heavy Islay scotch—Lagavulin or Laphroaig work wonderfully. » p82

ART • COCKTAILS • MUSIC •
CULTURE • COMMUNITY • LOVE • INSTAGRAM
FRINGE • M.O.M (MOTOWN ON MONDAYS)
THE PRINCE AND MICHAEL EXPERIENCE
ONE NIGHT STANDS • COUPLES • MARRIAGES
BABIES • DIVORCES • HANGOVERS • BAD DECISIONS
YOUR BEST NIGHT EVER

MADRONE ART BAR
500 Divisadero Street (at Fell)
madroneartbar.com

HAPPY HOUR TILL 7PM EVERYDAY
$2 PBR · $3 Mystery Shot · $4 Draft Beer
PLAY POOL HERE!
MON–WED 2PM–2AM SAT & SUN 1PM–2AM
FREE BBQ
SAT & SUN 2PM–6PM
With Drink Purchase
3139 16th St. SF, CA | (415) 552-5525
DELIRIUM
SAN FRANCISCO
SERVICE FOR THE SICK

Silver Cloud
Restaurant & Bar
WHERE SAN FRANCISCO COMES TO UNWIND
NIGHTLY KARAOKE
GREAT FOOD
19 TV'S FOR ALL YOUR SPORTS
OPEN 7 DAYS/WEEK 11AM-2AM
415-922-1977
1994 LOMBARD ST. SAN FRANCISCO

Sweetwater
MUSIC HALL
MARIN'S PREMIER LIVE MUSIC & PRIVATE EVENT VENUE
DRINKS | FOOD | MUSIC
• FULL SERVICE RESTAURANT OPEN ALL DAY
• WEEKEND BRUNCH ON SUNNY PATIO
• FREE OPEN MIC MONDAYS
• LIVE MUSIC EVERY NIGHT
AVAILABLE FOR PRIVATE EVENTS AND PARTIES OF 30-300 PEOPLE
EMAIL AARON@SWMH.COM
19 CORTE MADERA AVE | MILL VALLEY, CA | SWEETWATERMUSICHALL.COM

SF WEEKLY BEST OF SAN FRANCISCO

Mikkeller Bar

Mike Koozmin

BEST NEW BREWPUB

Magnolia Smokestack

2505 Third St., 415-864-7468

Magnoliasmokestack.com

Magnolia's long-awaited Smokestack, a brewpub and barbecue spot in the Dogpatch, has been open for about a year, and it's busy, busy, busy! It's drawing crowds thanks to the interior's killer design and ambience, the fantastic beer made in its fancy new 30-barrel brewery, and solid (if pricey) barbecue that pairs perfectly with said beer. Getting the attention of a bartender can take awhile, and the kitchen frequently runs out of the more popular barbecued meats, but the space (and beer!) are good enough that you can overlook almost anything.

Barrel Head Brewhouse

Brad Japhe

BEST NEW BREWERY

Barrel Head Brewhouse

1785 Fulton, 415-416-6989

Barrelheadsf.com

The San Francisco Brewers Guild has more than doubled its ranks over the past three years, swelling to some 20 breweries and counting. Entering this increasingly saturated space was Barrel Head, which opened a brewhouse in NOPA last year. To set itself apart, it's devoted its 15-barrel system to producing off-kilter experiments, like its smoky-yet-refreshing black Kolsch, and a saison brewed with persimmon. Its barrel program is also worthy of praise, highlighted by a pumpkin barleywine aged in spent Buffalo Trace bourbon casks, and a Belgian-style raspberry framboise rested in Pinot Noir stained oak. Owner Ivan Hopkinson anticipates distributing kegs to five bars across the city by midsummer, as demand has skyrocketed in less than a year.

MOST KNOWLEDGEABLE BEER-TENDERS

Mikkeller Bar

34 Mason, 415-984-0279

Mikkellerbar.com

One of the biggest differences between a decent beer bar and the best beer bar is how much the beer-tenders and servers know about what they're selling. Have they sampled all the brews on offer? Do they know how to describe them without recycling the same 10 adjectives? Can they suss out what you're into and make solid recommendations? Can they pair it with food? The » p84

THE SPEAKER BOX CAFE

$1 COFFEE WITH THIS AD

1743A SAN PABLO
7AM TO 7PM

THESPEAKERBOXCAFE.COM

LEO'S

5447 TELEGRAPH AVE OAKLAND, CA 94609 - CLUBLEOS.COM

THURS 5/7
THE DUSTBOWL REVIVAL
LEFTOVER CUTIES LEFTOVER CUTIES

FRI 5/8
GREYHOUNDS
SAL'S GREENHOUSE, EAST BAY BRASS BAND

SAT 5/9
THE FUXEDOS
MOETAR, BRIAN KENNY FRESNO

FRI 5/15
JAFFE EVENTS AND EARHOT ENT PRESENT: RUMBA LATINA
BAYONICS
SONIDO BAYLANDO, FEAT. DEUCE ECLIPSE, EL KOOL KYLE & DJ STEPWISE

SAT 5/16
LA BOHEMIA & PARISH GROUP
CHICANO BATMAN
THEE COMMONS, LA PELANGA DJS

SIERRA VALLEY LODGE

RESTAURANT, LODGING, BAR

Perfect for weddings and group getaways!

SIERRAVALLEYLODGE.NET

FRIDAY 5/08
THE SESHEN
BELLS ATLAS, ZAKIYA HARRIS FEAT. ELEPHANTINE

MONDAY 5/25
LIGHTICE PLEASE PRESENTS
RED, WHITE & BOOZE MEMORIAL DAY FEST

THURSDAY 5/28
THE LONDON SOULS
MAHGEETAH, MILES TACKETT

THURSDAY 6/04 & FRIDAY 6/05
NNEKA

MONDAY 6/15
ODD FUTURE'S
MIKE G
LEFT BRAIN, BIZARRE

THURSDAY 6/18
PARISH GROUP AND DJ DIALS PRESENT
GOLDLINK

FRIDAY 6/19
TASTEMAKER LIVE & SEAN HEALY PRESENTS
LUNIZ

FRIDAY 6/26
SEAN HEALY & TASTEMAKER LIVE PRESENT
GETO BOYS

TUESDAY 5/12
BOMBINO

SUNDAY 5/17
SLY & ROBBIE & THE TAXI GANG
BITTY MCLEAN

FRIDAY 5/22
SEAN HEALY & TASTEMAKER LIVE PRESENT
SHUGGIE OTIS

FRIDAY 6/12
THE NEW MASTERSOUNDS
OAKADELIC, OTS (ON THE SPOT) TRIO

THE NEW PARISH

5791 8TH
AT SAN PABLO
OAKLAND, CA 94612
THENEWPARISH.COM

BRICK & MORTAR MUSIC HALL

1710 MISSION ST.
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94103
BRICKANDMORTARMUSIC.COM

THU 5/7
DEAD MEN WALKING W/ JELLO BIAFRA
BARB WIRE DOLLS

SAT 5/23
BAD MANNERS

FRI 5/8
SISTER CRAYON

SAT 5/9
GREYHOUNDS

WED 5/13
HUTCH & KATHY

FRI 5/15
LA BOHEMIA AND PARISH GROUP PRESENT
CHICANO BATMAN
THEE COMMONS, LA PELANGA DJS

SAT 5/16
INTUITION & EQUALIBRUM

FRI 5/22
PRE-CARNAVAL SHOW!
BUYEPONGO
SANG MATIZ, MAISA DUKE

SAT 6/6
SEAN HEALY PRESENTS
THE FAMILY REUNION TOUR WITH KOTTONMOUTH KINGS
(HED)PE, SCARE DON'T FEAR, THE FAMILY RUIN, MARLON ASHER, C4 AND NICKY GRITTS, AND CHUCKY CHUCK

№ 2013
THE ROCK STEADY
OAKLAND-U.S.A.

THURS 5/7
STRANGE WAYS
SPACEGHOST, STEVE SANDWICH

FRI 5/8
SMART BOMB X FUZZOXOPE X VBRNT PRESENT
HELLA BEATS
SPECIAL GUEST MARK AUBERT.
RESIDENT BEATS/CASSETTES ON DECK: ALY, MIEKSNEAK, ASONIC GARCIA, FRENCH EXIT.
LIVE ART BY SAFETYFIRST POP

SAT 5/9
PLAYER H8RS BALL
DJ SWISHA SWEET, FLOW CASTLE, BASTIENGOAT, DJ DROPACAT

SUN 5/10
TR4NC3/// MUT4T1(0)N5///
BONUS BEAST, IC_PCP, BRIAN TESTER, FLORIAN C

TUES 5/12
JUST CULTURE AND THE ROCK STEADY PRESENT
TOM TOM CLUB

THE LATEST AND GREATEST ADDITION TO UPTOWN'S COCKTAIL AND DJ SCENE
1745 SAN PABLO AVE, OAKLAND | THEROCK-STEADY.COM

BROUGHT TO YOU BY PARISH ENTERTAINMENT GROUP

staff at Mikkeller Bar in the Tenderloin tends to knock it out better than at any other bar in the city. If you don't chat up your server/beer-tender about what's on offer that day, you're missing out on half the reason to spend that extra money.

BEST FRESH HOPPY BEER

Cellarmaker Brewing Company

1150 Howard, 415-863-3940
Cellarmakerbrewing.com

There's a reason why most people's favorite beer is a local one: Beer is best when fresh, and that goes doubly so for hoppy beer. Tiny Cellarmaker Brewing Company in SOMA remains the king of San Francisco brewpubs for its constantly changing selection of ultra-fresh and delicious hoppy beers, often made with hop varieties that aren't widely available. Their roast-y brews, like Coffee & Cigarettes, aren't too shabby, either. As Cellarmaker is no secret to SF's beer geek set, expect a crowd at peak times, but because it posts a list of upcoming beers, you can always plan your next visit.

BEST SPOT FOR RARE, WEIRD, AND INTERESTING BEER

City Beer Store

1168 Folsom, 415-503-1033
Citybeerstore.com

With its walls of coolers, City Beer Store is like the bodega of our dreams. This subterranean storefront SOMA with the understated name regularly features rare and interesting sours, barrel-aged brews, and styles you won't typically find on tap anywhere else. When you're done having a few tulips at the bar, check out its big bottle selection to go. It's got a great selection of rare and unusual picks in the fridges, too. Certain extra special or vintage bottles have to be consumed on-site, however. Not sure what to chose? Just ask, the staff knows its stuff — but be warned, City Beer Store shuts its doors at 10 nightly.

BEST BAR FEATURING ONLY LOCAL BEER

Hopwater Distribution

850 Bush
Hopwaterdistribution.com

There's no question the Bay Area and surrounding territories have far more than their fair share of great breweries. While it can be limiting in some ways, some SF beer bars have jumped on the local-only trend. (This can also be a very good thing, considering how fresh the beer is!) No bar in SF is curating a better all-local tap list than the year-and-a-half-old Hopwater Distribution in Lower Nob Hill. It claims to pour only California craft beer, but in practice most of its list comes from an even smaller radius than that. If you want a tour of what the Bay Area's breweries are up to, this is your go-to spot.

Calibree Photography

BEST CLUB FOR THOSE WHO LOVE COSTUMES

DNA Lounge

375 11th St., 415-626-1409
dnalounge.com

There's no denying it: San Franciscans love costumes, and will gladly accept any excuse imaginable to dress up. If you're one of our city's many costume-lovers, and you've wished there were a club catering to your desires, look no further than the DNA Lounge. The club hosts a number of regular nights, all of which are costume-centric or at least costume-suggested: Bootie, where folks who never go to clubs dress up like club-goers; Hubba Hubba Revue, for the burlesque- and steampunk-inclined; Death Guild, where Goths dress up like candy ravers; and So Stoked, where candy ravers dress up like, well, candy ravers. Pick your poison.

BEST ARCADE FOR GROWNUPS

Brewcade

2200 Market, #102
Brewcadesf.com

If you have a thirst for good beer and a bunch of quarters burning a hole in your pocket, look no further than the brand-spanking-new Brewcade on Market at 15th Street in the Castro. It's got a big selection of classic arcade games like *Super Mario Bros.*, *Mortal Kombat*, and *Pole Position*, plus a bigger selection of beer to choose from, ranging from easy drinking lagers by the likes of Firestone Walker to barrel-aged goodies from local hero Almanac Beer Co. It gets pretty jammed in there, so if you're serious about getting your game on with a particular machine, show up as early as you would if you were ditching last period.

BEST UNDERRATED SF BREWERY

Fort Point Brewery

644 Old Mason, the Presidio, 415-906-4021
Fortpointbeer.com

Did you know there's a brewery in The Presidio? Fort Point Beer Company is doing great things just across the street from Crissy Field! Sadly, it's a production facility, so you can't pop in for a tasting flight. While Fort Point has done a fine job of distributing its beer through SF's network, it hasn't been getting quite the kudos it deserves — possibly owing to how it focuses on making well-balanced, sessionable German styles rather than the trendier, barrel-aged or hoppy stuff. Keep an eye out for its delicious KSA Kolsch, a light golden ale, its Manzanita (a smoky brown ale), and the toasty amber Westfalia.

BEST LOCAL DRINK PUBLICATION

Liquid Bread

liquidbreadmag.com

For a city as gastronomically diverse and saturated with devoted foodies as San Francisco, it's surprising that there hasn't been a publication to tap into the market of beer enthusiasts and drinkers. Now drawing readers with top-notch knowledge and passion for craft beers, creator and Editor-in-Chief Sam Molmud and his team are celebrating a drink that is often deemed inferior to its other liquid counterparts. Let's raise a glass to this hop-ping online magazine. Cheers!

BEST LOCAL IRISH BAR

The Dubliner

328 W. Portal Ave., 415-566-9444

Urban legend narrates that the Irish coffee was created at San Francisco's Buena Vista Cafe. While that assessment may be up for debate, we have no question about which location gets our vote for best local Irish bar. Many Irish bars in the city are aiming to change their ambience to draw more business and/or social media buzz. The Dubliner on West Portal Avenue doesn't follow fickle trends and sticks with the classics: a large array of beers on tap and spirits on the shelves, multitudes of screens for watching sports, a jukebox, animal heads on the walls, and brazen bartenders. Some would call it mayhem. We call it our home away from home.

BEST WINE BAR

Press Club

20 Yerba Buena Lane, 415-744-5000
pressclubsf.com

San Francisco is the gateway to California wine country and for those who can't seem to find a designated driver to schlep them up for a round of tastings, the luxurious Press Club converts a day trip to Napa or Sonoma into an evening of liquid bliss. You'll never find a more light-filled subterranean space than this anti-man-cave, and » p86

BOOM BOOM ROOM

SAN FRANCISCO'S FUNKIEST CLUB

1601 FILLMORE STREET, SAN FRANCISCO, CA | 415.673.8000

OPEN TUESDAY - SUNDAY 'TIL 2 AM+

LIVE MUSIC

LIVE MUSIC STARTS AT 9:30 UNLESS INDICATED

HAPPY HOUR EVERY DAY 4:00 - 8:00 PM

$4 WELLS | $4 DRAFTS | $2 PBR | $2 OFF ALL LIQOUR

FUNK • SOUL • R&B • ROCK • ELECTRONIC • NEW ORLEANS • JAZZ

GET THE INSIDE SCOOP ON SECRET SHOWS, SURPRISE GUESTS, AND EXCLUSIVE DEALS FOR FANS

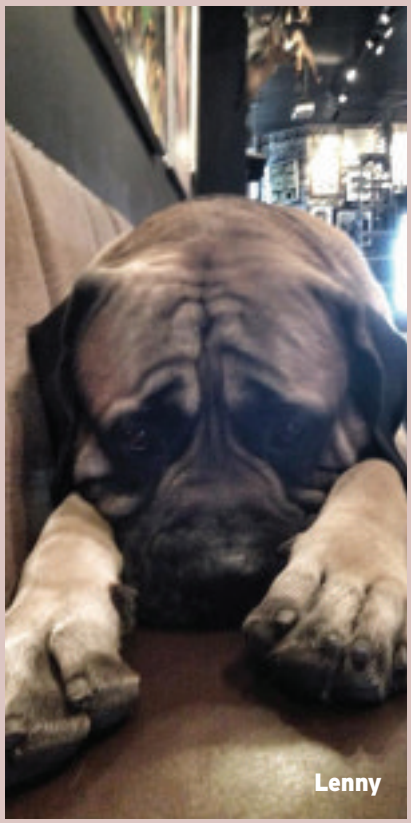
FOLLOW US ON FB: **BOOM BOOM ROOM PRESENTS**

TWEET US **@BOOMBOOMROOMSF**

TAG US ON IG **@BOOMBOOMROOMSF**

BOOMBOOMBLUES.COM

WWW.BOOMBOOMTICKETS.COM


Lenny

BEST BAR DOG

Lenny at Madrone Art Bar

500 Divisadero St.
415-241-0202
madroneartbar.com

We love a good bookstore cat, but bar dogs don't always get the recognition they're due. Madrone Art Bar's resident mastiff bulldog, Lenny, lives above the bar with his human (who is also Madrone's owner) and doesn't even complain about the nightly DJs. According to his vet, Lenny's weight of 241 pounds makes him not only the heaviest dog in the Western Addition, but also the canine equivalent to a full keg and a half of beer. No wonder he looks so pooped much of the time. Normally when people embark on a pushy lobbying campaign, we cackle maniacally at their expense and move on — but we just can't resist that furrowed brow.

the location is as ideal for hosting larger birthday parties as it is for sampling a flight of new wines to educate your palate. Press Club shines a spotlight on an artisanal vintner every month, but the truffle popcorn isn't going anywhere.

BEST LOUNGE
The Residence

718 14th St., 415-797-8866.

Located at the intersection of Church and Market streets, this laid back bar is some tough competition for more established spots such as The Mint and Churchill. But living up to its name, this bar is here to stay because its vibe is an escape from the rowdier hangouts in the vicinity. Resembling the set of a Victorian parlor but with trendier music, the bar has a stark juxtaposition that makes anyone sipping a Manhattan feel classy and sophisticated within the confines of comfort. When a Corpse Reviver #2 feels too tame, you can always go Riding with Death (a tasty cocktail made with Herradura Silver and Campari).

BEST LOCAL DIVE BAR
The Tempest

431 Natoma, 415-495-1863
tempest-bar.com

Located behind the Chronicle Building on an unlovely stretch of Natoma, the Tempest is a long-standing bar with a rustic interior of exposed brick and faded pool tables where bike messengers stand should-to-shoulder with nobs looking for a nightcap after a fancy dress at the Old Mint. Despite the sticker-clad bathroom walls (and there are many, many stickers) and loud sports broadcasts playing in the background, The Tempest allows you to shed all pretentions and just enjoy a nice beer or cocktail and unwind, without any strings attached. If you're feeling a mite puckish afterwards, the Box Kitchen next door serves bar snacks until late at night.

BEST MARGARITA
El Amigo

3355 Mission St., 415-824-1940

Valencia is the Marcia Brady of dining, but Mission Street in Bernal Heights has everything you could ever want. With a name as borderline anonymous as El Amigo, there needs to be something to draw people in besides a view of the 30th Street Safeway — and whaddya know, El Amigo's margarita is sublime. The baseline drink is wonderful, but this is the kind of un-flashy tequila joint where if you trust the bartender, good things happen. (Hello, spicy salted rim!) Formerly adjacent Emmy's Spaghetti Shack has moved on, but word has it a new Yucatecan restaurant is coming in, which all but

Monarch

Cole Anetsberger/Flickr

guarantees spillover and a lively atmosphere. We need more unironic places like El Amigo, and soon.

BEST BAR WITH ECCENTRIC ENTERTAINMENT
Monarch

101 Sixth St., 415-284-9774
monarchsf.com

Monarch lives up to its name in regal proportions. The drink list is kingly, the photo booth produces photogenic princes and princesses, and the lady trapeze artists are truly the queens in the Monarch arena. It has redefined the traditional happy hour, with its own "amazing hour" weekdays from 5:30-7:30 p.m. Expect to see comedic contortionists, 50/50 chances of getting free cocktails, twerking dancers, and more surprises that involve forgetting your troubles and getting submerged in bohemian debauchery and bliss.

BEST BLOODY MARY
Bender's Bar & Grill

806 S. Van Ness Ave., 415-824-1800
bendersbar.com

At the risk of bringing hellfire on ourselves by not acknowledging the Bloody Mary at a different Mission punk bar (starts with Z, kicks you out a lot), we must recognize excellence when the situation demands it. A Bloody Mary needs to do two things: be as dense with foliage as the Congo, and have a kick. Bender's Bloody Mary comes with some serious vegetation, but also a freaking Slim Jim, mechanically separated chicken and all. Frankly, after bacon went all highbrow, we needed to listen to our inner Randy "Macho Man" Savage for a little low-brow excitement. Bender's Bloody will eradicate a hangover even though the pulsating noise from the jukebox should theoretically worsen it.

BEST FULLY LEGAL PICK-ME-UP FOR ALL-NIGHT CLUB MARATHONS
Club Mate, available at Public Works

161 Erie St., 415-496-6738, publicsf.com

Dancing is hard work. It takes a lot out of you. And while there has always been a variety of illicit substances available to fuel all-night club-hopping, there is a new, perfectly legal beverage that does the trick remarkably well: Club Mate. Club Mate (pronounced "mah-tay," after yerba mate, the source of its stimulants) is German in origin, was made popular by clubbers at Berghain, Berlin's techno mega-club. The drink, which possesses a gentle earthy flavor, is low in sugar and high in caffeine. Currently only available at Public Works (and The Fizzary, a Mission soda shop), it provides a smooth, crash-free buzz, unlike its better-known taurus-themed competitor.

BEST POST-SHOW BAR TO WATCH STRAIGHT DUDES BEING AWKWARD
The Eagle

398 12th St., sf-eagle.com/storm

We came so close to losing The Eagle a couple of years back and, had it gone, we'd have lost one of the friendliest and most fun bars in the city. We also would've lost our favorite place to go after seeing a show at Slim's. It's not just the lack of distance between the two venues that keeps us going back either; it's also the hilarious sight of unsuspecting straight dudes wandering in after the indie show for a beverage or two, and then suddenly realizing there are even more leather harnesses in the room than is usual for an SF bar. Gloriously entertaining.

HUSTLER

Thank You
for Voting Us

2015
Best
Strip
Club

I would personally like to thank each and every one of our valued guests for voting Hustler Club SF Best Strip Club 2015. I recognize that we would not have been in the running without our terrific management team, our lovely entertainers, and most importantly, our incredible staff! This award is a direct result of their commitment, perseverance and hard work.

So once again, I thank you, one and all!

Frankie Fusco
General Manager

SF WEEKLY
BEST OF
SAN FRANCISCO
WINNER
2015

LARRY FLYNT'S
HUSTLER CLUB®
SAN FRANCISCO

1031 Kearny at Broadway North Beach 415 434 1301
www.hustlerclubsf.com #hustlerclubsf @sf_hustlerclub

SINCE 1868
Martinelli's
GOLD MEDAL®
U.S. GROWN FRESH APPLES
SINCE 1868
Martinelli's
GOLD MEDAL
100% PURE
Apple Juice
FROM U.S. GROWN FRESH APPLES
NO ADDITIVES OF ANY KIND
"DRINK YOUR APPLE A DAY"
1.5 LITER • 50.7 FL. OZ. (1.6 QT.)
"DRINK YOUR APPLE A DAY"
Martinelli's
GOLD MEDAL
SPARKLING
APPLE JUICE
Martinelli's
GOLD MEDAL
100% PURE
Apple Juice
FROM U.S. GROWN FRESH APPLES